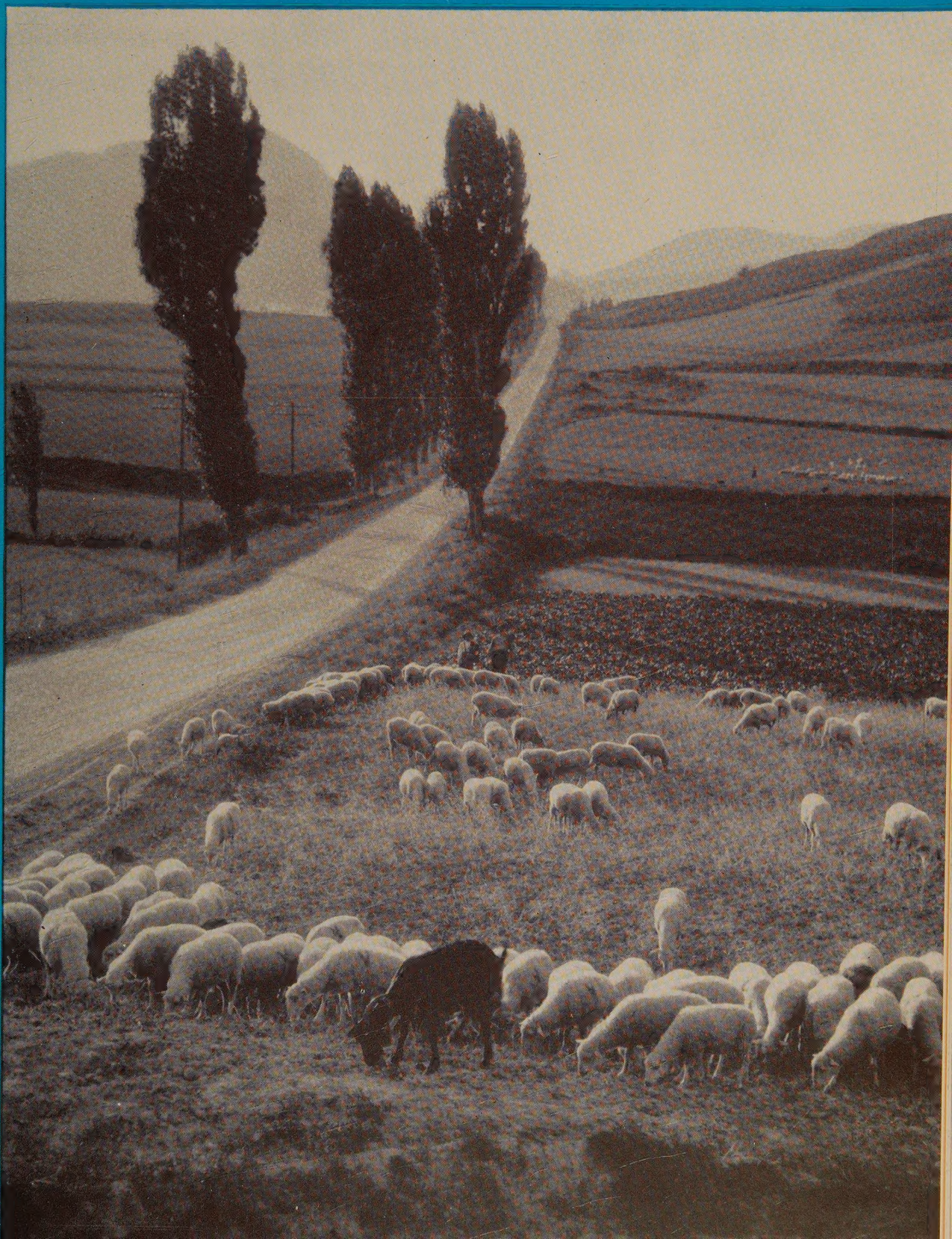
Shepherds

SEPTEMBER, 1950



THE ADVANCE FOR CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH FROM CRUSADE TO CONQUEST

ction Program
in
Evangelism

SIX VICTORIOUS MONTHS

Action Program of Evangelism
Advance for Christ and His Church

SEPTEMBER—

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION OF PASTOR AND LAYMAN

Labor Day week-end recommended for each member to use a spiritual examination folder, "Alone With God," prepared by the Department of Spiritual Life of the General Board of Evangelism and released by TIDINGS. See announcement in this magazine.

JURISDICTIONAL EVANGELISTIC CONFERENCES

A large 3-day meeting in each Jurisdiction. See announcement and schedule of meetings in this issue of Shepherds.

SEPTEMBER 17-20—

NATIONAL WEEK OF FINDING PROSPECTS

Make a complete religious census this week for a full listing of prospects for your church and church school. See article in this magazine.

SEPTEMBER 24ff—

"SEE YOU IN CHURCH SUNDAY"

This Movement—using materials listed in this magazine—will enable you to build up church attendance, reclaim inactive members, revitalize spiritual life, and increase Christian fellowship.

OCTOBER 1—

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

Have every resident member present for fellowship with Christ and with Christians the world around. Let every member partake of the Sacrament, and pledge loyalty to Christ and faithful attendance at church. Plan that those won by personal, pastoral, visitation, and pulpit evangelism during September be received into the church on this Sunday.

OCTOBER 22-29
(or Oct. 29-Nov. 5)—

WEEK OF PULPIT EVANGELISM
(REFORMATION WEEK)

Let every pastor proclaim the great doctrines of Protestantism and Methodism each night, in his own pulpit.

OCTOBER 22-29—

NATIONAL NONRESIDENT TRANSFER WEEK

During this same week, by organized visitation win all nonresident members in your community to active membership and participation in your church.

NOVEMBER—

ONE-DAY DISTRICT MEETINGS

Let every district superintendent and district secretary of evangelism promote a great one-day district evangelistic rally.

DECEMBER 3-7—

UNITED WEEK OF VISITATION EVANGELISM

Thirty-seven other denominations in Protestantism's United Evangelistic Advance will use this week also.

DECEMBER 24—

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY—MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

Let Christmas Sunday witness a great gift of persons to Christ. Bring those won during the United Week of Visitation Evangelism into the Church.

DECEMBER 31—

COVENANT SUNDAY

On Sunday morning, hold a Covenant Service—On Sunday night, hold a Watch Night Service.

JANUARY—

CHURCH-SCHOOL EVANGELISM

—The entire church school going all out for evangelism.
—The church-school literature will help guide pastors and church-school workers in this.

FEBRUARY 25-MARCH 1—

NATIONAL WEEK OF VISITATION EVANGELISM

Your church can complete its "1 for 14" goal—one on confession of faith for 14 active members this week.

MARCH 21-28—

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Make this week a worthy climax to the greatest six months your church has ever had.

Methodism's Six Victorious Months

You Can Have a Part in It. Plan and Pray and Work.

For Spiritual Preparation of All Members

Number — Amount

_____ **ALONE WITH GOD**, a spiritual examination folder — $2.00 per 100 _____

Prepared for individuals to use—*alone* with God—in the first days of September, the month of spiritual preparation for six glorious months of Advance for Christ and His Church. Sample enclosed.

NOTE: If your church has joined, or is joining now, the TIDINGS "Tract-of-the-Month" Club, don't order here—unless you want that many extra.

For National Week of Finding Prospects, September 17-22

_____ **HOW TO CONDUCT A RELIGIOUS CENSUS** — 10¢ each; 7 for 50¢ _____

New booklet prepared by Dawson C. Bryan for pastors, members of committee on membership and evangelism, and others who will plan and direct the census. Order this at once to get the "know how."

_____ **INSTRUCTION LEAFLET FOR RELIGIOUS CENSUS TAKERS** — 2¢ each _____

New leaflet by Dawson C. Bryan to give to every census worker when he is enlisted to assist in census to find the prospects.

_____ **RELIGIOUS CENSUS WORKER'S AGREEMENT CARD** — 50¢ per 100 _____

Card to be used in personally enlisting the choicest workers. Let each census taker sign two cards, one to keep as a reminder and one for the church.

_____ **FRIENDLY COMMUNITY STUDY CARDS** — 50¢ per 100 _____

Card to be used in the religious census. Order a card for every family in entire territory to be surveyed—plus extras for duplicates. Order liberally. There are more families than you think.

TIDINGS ORDER BLANK

Number Amount

_____ **FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ASSIGNMENT ENVELOPES** 60¢ per 100 _____
Envelopes to be used in assigning territory and giving cards to the religious census takers. Order in multiples of 25, please.

_____ **PROSPECT AND ASSIGNMENT CARDS** 50¢ per 100 _____
It will be necessary for you to transfer the information about your prospect to this card that it may be used as an assignment card for your visitation evangelism workers. However the VISITATION PACKET contains these Prospect and Assignment cards, so do not order here if you order a VISITATION PACKET below.

Leave One of These Leaflets When You Conduct Religious Census

_____ **BE A MEMBER WHERE YOU ARE.** Leaflet for persons whose membership is out of community where he lives. $2.00 per 100 _____

_____ **I BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH.** A giving of reasons for belief in the church. $1.50 per 100 _____

_____ **I GO TO CHURCH SUNDAY.** Stamp the name of your church on this leaflet. $1.50 per 100 _____

_____ **THE METHODIST CHURCH.** A frank description of The Methodist Church as a matter of information. $2.00 per 100 _____

_____ **DAY BY DAY WITH GOD.** A challenge to realize the presence of God always—and a recipe. $1.00 per 100 _____

VISITATION EVANGELISM PACKET

A package that contains recommended numbers of all visitation evangelism (not religious census) materials, according to the size of your church.

_____ Put down the number of active members your church has, to the nearest 100—Put down 100, 200, 300, 400, or whatever it should be. Multiply this number by 2½¢ for price of your packet. $_____

TRACT-OF-THE-MONTH CLUB

( ) I (or my church) already belong to this Club.
( ) We are joining now—and enclosing the Enrollment Card to begin with September Tract—"Alone With God."
For "See You in Church Sunday" and World Wide Communion Materials, use Order Blank on inside of back cover.

TIDINGS ORDER BLANK

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 4, Tenn. **Total Amount of Order** _____

Please fill my order as checked.

( ) **Payment enclosed** ( ) **Charge to treasurer** ( ) **Charge to my account**

_____
Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss NAME

_____
ADDRESS

_____
Church Treasurer

_____
Address

Date _____ **Order placed by** _____

Please do not ask for materials on consignment. To grant consignment privileges would necessitate higher prices.

SIX VICTORIOUS MONTHS

Action Program in Evangelism
in the
Advance for Christ and His Church
October 1 through March 31
World Wide Communion through Easter

- Significant in Methodism's entire history was the Crusade for Christ
- Epochal was the raising of $25,000,000 plus—for World Reconstruction
- Never-to-be-forgotten was the winning of 1,000,000 persons for Christ in the Year of Evangelism
- The Year of Stewardship and the Church School Emphasis helped round out the greatest quadrennial program any Church had ever attempted
- But that was last quadrennium—1944-48

For Christ and His Church

- For this quadrennium the Church adopted an ADVANCE program.
- Even the motto was stated thus: "From Crusade to Conquest."
- It is ours to go on to Conquest—to ADVANCE *for* Christ and *with* Christ.

But Can Methodism Advance?

- Already this quadrennium we have advanced in regular giving, in church building, in mission specials. We rejoice in this!
- We must advance now in winning persons, in developing the spiritual life, in making Christians. **Can We Do It?**
- Thousands realize that the next advance must come through Evangelism and a deepening of the spiritual life.

The Action Program of Evangelism

- Beginning October 1, and continuing for six months, the teaching emphasis of the Advance will be "OUR CHURCH." Hats off to this emphasis! Details and materials for it will come from Dr. E. H. Mohn and the Advance Office, 740 Rush St., Chicago.
- During these six months, the "action" program will be EVANGELISM. Coats off to this program! "The day of march has come."
- By request of the Advance Committee, the General Board of Evangelism and the Division of the Local Church of the General Board of Education will lead in and be responsible for this Program.
- It will be a program of action for every church and every church school.

Full, Well-Rounded Program

- It will be a complete program. It will be announced monthly in *Shepherds*, in church school literature, in the church press, and in various releases from the Advance Office and the two Boards.
- A "Preview" of the high points of the program already released by the General Board of Evangelism is listed in calendar form on the inside front cover of this magazine.
- The things of immediate concern are listed in more detail on the next few pages. How important they are!

SEPTEMBER is the MONTH OF PREPARATION

Pastors, Superintendents, Churches, Committees on Membership and Evangelism, and all of Christ's people, **"Let Us Advance for Christ and His CHURCH."**

Begin

The Six Victorious Months of Evangelism by spending at least 30 minutes "Alone With God"

A devotional exercise titled "ALONE WITH GOD" is now available as part of the preparation for the Six Victorious Months devoted to evangelism in the Advance for Christ and His Church. "ALONE WITH GOD" is a soul-searching questionnaire to be used by millions of Methodists. It will stir every earnest user to recognize his personal need for God as revealed in Christ, and will help him to discover what it costs in sacrifice and service to believe in Christ. It is arranged in the traditional Wesleyan form to insure a rich and holy experience in faith.

"ALONE WITH GOD" is designed to be used during the Labor Day Week End. Thirty minutes spent in this spiritual questioning will clarify many of the divine truths about prayer, Christ, and the Kingdom. It will strengthen the seeker for the months ahead, and will lift high the banner of Christ to challenge those who believe in Him to win others to His cause. Though designed especially to be used around Labor Day it can be used at any time during the month of September, or at any other season of the year.

It is hoped that every pastor in The Methodist Church will spend 30 minutes "ALONE WITH GOD." It is hoped that every pastor will secure copies for the members of the Official Board, the church-school teachers, the youth, and, above all, the members of the Committee on Membership and Evangelism which will have primary responsibility for leading the program of evangelism in the local church.

A Soul-searching and Soul-stimulating Spiritual Exercise
Which will lay the Foundation for the
Advance Through Evangelism

—For Pastors

—For Members of the Official Board

—For Local Church Committees on Evangelism

—For Church-School Teachers

—For Youth

—For all who would be more spiritual

Plan to Spend 30 Minutes during the Labor Day Week End or at some other selected time during September.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION WILL INSURE SPIRITUAL VICTORIES

Pastors and Committees on Membership and Evangelism will want to provide their people with this spiritual-examination folder that, early in September, they may look at themselves in the searching light of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit—through meditation and prayer.

Sample Copy

A sample copy of "Alone With God" is enclosed with this magazine. "Alone With God" is available to the regular TIDINGS' Tract-of-the-Month Club subscribers as the September Tract-of-the-Month. They need not order it, unless they want to increase the number, for they will receive it automatically. Likewise will new subscribers who subscribe now.

All others should order at once . . . on the enclosed TIDINGS order blank.

Spiritual Life

"Alone With God" was prepared by the Department of Spiritual Life of the General Board of Evangelism, whose duties, among other things, are:

1. "To seek to lead NEW MEMBERS of the Church into a deeper awareness of the obligations of the Faith as it relates to their personal life, their family life, and their church life.
2. "To rekindle the loyalty to Christ of those who are INACTIVE MEMBERS, and to seek their reconsecration to Christ and the Kingdom.
3. "To seek to deepen the spiritual life and experience of ALL MEMBERS of the Church by enlisting them to follow such Christian habits as church attendance, personal and family devotions, and stewardship living."

JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCES OF EVANGELISM

A great Jurisdictional Conference of Evangelism will soon be held in each Jurisdiction under the auspices of the Jurisdictional Boards of Evangelism and General Board of Evangelism.

Why?

- To help make The Methodist Church an Evangelistic Church
- To launch the Action Program of Evangelism in the Advance for Christ and His Church
- To serve as inspiration and information for the evangelistic leadership of each Conference and District
- To reach the evangelistic leadership of the local church, according to opportunity
- To light revival fires in great cities and reach the rank and file of church membership
- To seize the imagination of the people and spread evangelistic action throughout the jurisdiction

Who?

These, among others will attend:

Bishops
District Superintendents
Pastors and Evangelistic Leaders
District and Conference Secretaries of Evangelism
Members, District Committee and Conference Boards of Evangelism
District Secretaries of Spiritual Life, and Presidents of WSCS
Local Church Committees on Membership and Evangelism

We hope and pray that YOU will attend.

When and Where?

It was recommended that these Jurisdictional Conferences be held simultaneously the first week in September—the first week of the Month of Spiritual Preparation for the Six Victorious Months of Evangelism in the Action Program—and the Jurisdictional Boards and Planning Committees have announced the following schedule as near thereto as possible:

Jurisdiction	Date	Place	Host Church
Central	August 15, 16, 17	Cincinnati, Ohio	Mount Zion Methodist
Southeastern	September 5, 6, 7	Birmingham, Ala.	First Methodist
South Central	September 5, 6, 7	Tulsa, Okla.	Boston Avenue Methodist
Northeastern	September 5, 6, 7	Ocean City, N. J.	First Methodist
Western	September 12, 13, 14	San Francisco, Cal.	Glide Memorial
North Central	September 19, 20, 21	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	St. Paul's Methodist

What?

- Great programs of evangelism have been planned under the direction of the Chairmen of the Jurisdictional Boards of Evangelism.
- In each Conference outstanding Bishops, District Superintendents, Pastors, and other evangelistic leaders will bring inspirational addresses, while staff members of the General Boards of Education and Evangelism, Conference and District Secretaries of Evangelism, and others will lead in practical "How" discussions and promote Open Forums.
- You will not want to miss the Conference in your Jurisdiction. Your attendance should help your church, district, and Conference—and YOU.

Plan Now to Attend

Let no ordinary thing deter you. Make your hotel reservations now—"on your own" or with your friends. Plan to take your car, organize your party from your church or community, and pool your expenses.

MAKE THE METHODIST CHURCH AN EVANGELISTIC CHURCH

Finding The Unchurched

DAWSON C. BRYAN

ON CONDUCTING THE

NATIONAL WEEK OF FINDING PROSPECTS

METHODISM expects to win 600,000 persons in six months, October to Easter.

Who are these people?

They are the nameless crowds who mill about our streets or pass along our country lanes.

But if we can single them out, learn their names and where they live, we can go to them personally with the appeal of the Gospel of Christ.

We know how to find these unchurched people.

September Is the Month

The success of the evangelistic six months depends upon the preparation in discovering and listing the prospects. *The National Week of Finding Prospects* is September 17-23. The place to discover these unchurched people is in each local community. Plan now to find every possible prospect for Christ and His Church in your own territory.

Three Sources

There are three ways to list the prospects. The pastor with the Committee on Membership and Evangelism of every charge should plan now to compile a complete prospect list. The most valuable help the minister has is his Committee on Membership and Evangelism. Here is their first responsibility to discover the potential membership of the church.

I. Help Transfer Non-Residents

Now is the time to speed your own people who are on your non-resident roll to active membership in churches where they now live. Appoint a sub-committee or some individual to take care of this responsibility. Check carefully your Inactive Roll and send a letter of notification to each member residing elsewhere and also a letter of notification to the pastor or district superintendent in that community. The form of this letter of notification is on the next page, or you may order from The Methodist Publishing House, or simply write a letter similar to this form.

Do this now and keep on until every one of your non-residents is located actively where he now resides.

In this way you can help to get the million and a half Methodists reactivated in other churches—and those in your community in your own church.

II. Finding Prospects in the Community

The women of the Woman's Society of Christian Service and members of adult classes can help to take a Religious Census of the community. Preparation should be made now and during the National Week of Finding Prospects, September 17-23. Take a Religious Census of your community. Here are ways of getting prospects from community sources:

1. Community Survey.
2. Area Surveys; study of selected areas of parish.
3. New Residents; From Credit Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Utility Companies, "Welcome Wagons," Transportation Firms.
4. Luncheon Clubs and Fraternal Organizations.
5. "Spotter Committee," organized to look for new people in the parish.

This picture of an actual survey scene was a part of a Sunday afternoon Religious Census taken in a suburban section of a growing city by young adults of established churches, in order to secure prospective members for a new church. Within a few weeks the church was organized with 126 charter members, and is now growing rapidly.

III. Finding Prospects Within the Church

Work now will make possible the largest ingathering in the following six months. Nothing will yield such large results as a complete prospect list. Compile that at the present time and you will be ready to conduct your evangelistic program to win them to Christ and His Church.

Order your materials immediately. These will include the new folder, "How to Conduct a Religious Census." You will want sufficient instruction sheets for each one of your census takers. The name of these is "Instruction Leaflet for Census Takers." You will also want sufficient Survey Cards, Workers' Agreement Cards and Assignment and Report envelopes.

After you have taken your surveys and obtained your names, transfer these by families to the Prospect and Assignment cards for use in your evangelistic campaign.

Let us make September the great month of finding prospects in preparation for *the greatest evangelistic ingathering The Methodist Church has ever known.* This can be done on a nationwide scale if you and your church and every other pastor and Committee on Membership and Evangelism go to work immediately. Here are ways of getting prospects from within your church membership:

1. Church-School Survey; those attending Church School who are not members of the church.
2. In-laws of the church; relatives of church members.
3. Attendance Registration; take roll call at all church services for a month.

This picture is typical of the rapidly growing suburban districts which should definitely be included in the Religious Census, for they are a rich source of new church members.

4. Families served by pastor; funerals, weddings, etc.
5. Membership of church organizations; check membership of W.S.C.S., Boy and Girl Scouts, etc.
6. Ask each church member to turn in names of two persons he would like to see won to Christ and His Church.
7. Visitors' Cards; turned in by ushers and Church-School teachers.

How Can You Win Them If You Don't Know Who and Where They Are?

NEW MATERIALS
FOR NATIONAL WEEK OF FINDING PROSPECTS

How to Conduct the Religious Census. 10c each; 7 copies, 50.
—New booklet by Dawson C. Bryan
—for pastors, Committees on Membership and Evangelism, and others who will plan and conduct the census.
—Order a liberal supply today. You need lots of census takers.

Instruction Leaflet for Religious Census Takers. 2c each.
—A leaflet for every person who takes the census, to read in advance.
—Order a liberal supply today. You need lots of census takers.

Religious Census Worker's Agreement. 50c per 100.
—A card that the census taker signs when he agrees to work.
—Order a supply. You will need two for each worker, plus extras.

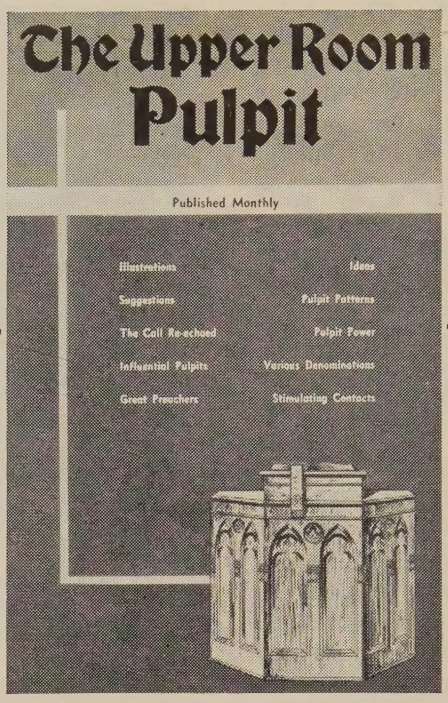
MATERIALS NECESSARY, BUT NOT NEW

Friendly Community Study Cards. 50c per 100.
—You will need a card for every family in territory to be surveyed, plus extras for duplicates.

Friendly Community Study Envelopes. 60c per 100.
—You will need an envelope for every team. Order in multiples of 25, please. (Also see statement on page 29.)

TIDINGS

1908 Grand Avenue **Nashville 4, Tennessee**



Keep abreast of the great pulpit work of our day through this monthly magazine which publishes representative sermons from the outstanding preachers. Splendid sermons each month that will give direction to your own thinking, will provide ideas, illustrations and suggestions for your own work. Here is stimulating contact with the pulpit work of men of many parts of the land and of various denominations.

SEPTEMBER SERMONS

Arthur Lee Kinsolving
St. James Episcopal Church, New York City
Samson and Delilah

James Gordon Gilkey
South Congregational Church, Springfield, Massachusetts
What Can We Trust God For?

George Buttrick
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City
No Time Like the Present

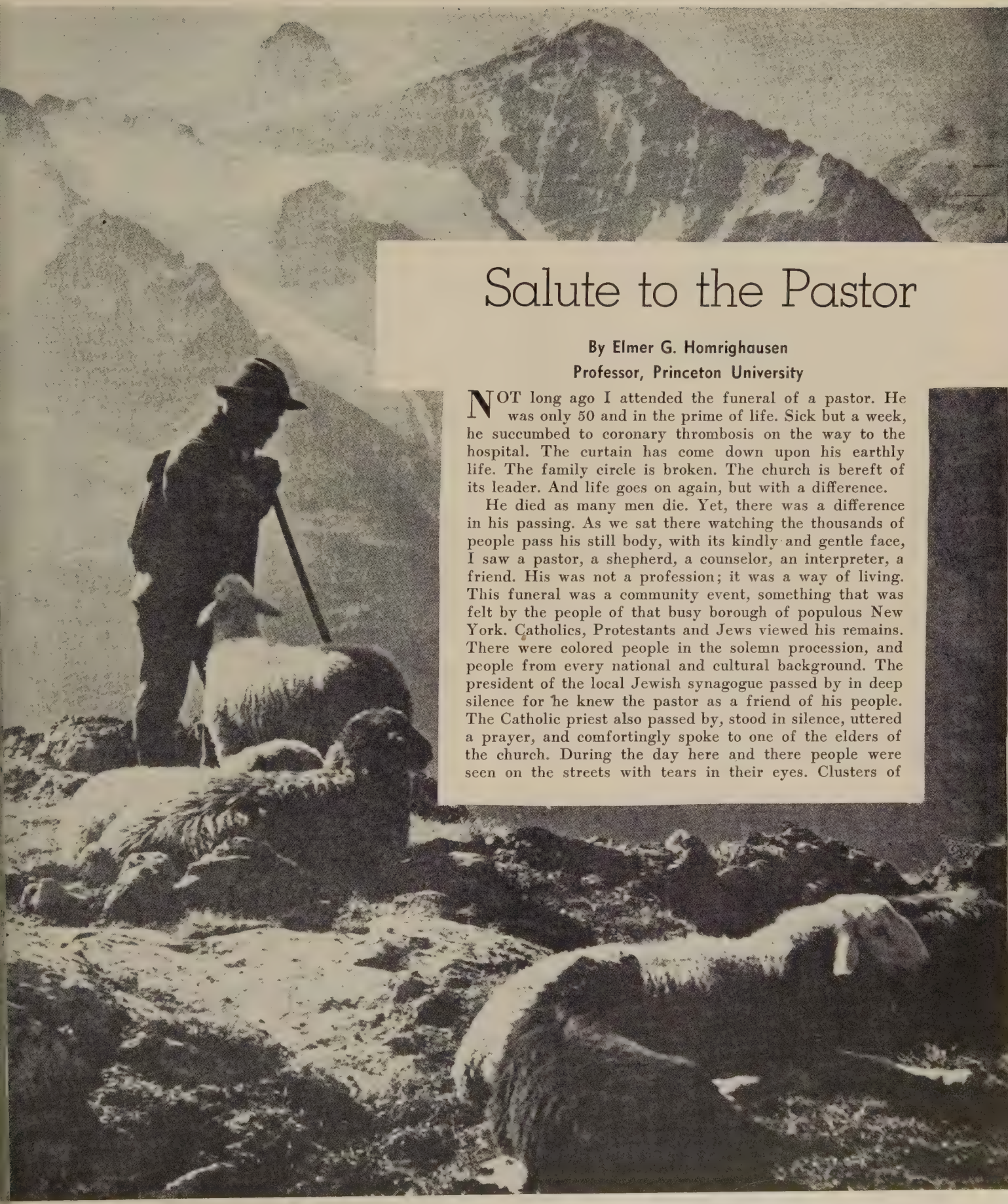
William Peter King
Methodist Minister, Retired, Nashville, Tennessee
Spiritual Exercise of the Imagination

Walter L. Cook
First Baptist Church, Bangor, Maine
Handling Our Handicaps

Annual Subscription in the United States and Canada, $1.50
Foreign, $2.00

The Upper Room Pulpit

J. MANNING POTTS, *Editor*
1908 Grand Avenue Nashville 4, Tennessee



Salute to the Pastor

By Elmer G. Homrighausen
Professor, Princeton University

NOT long ago I attended the funeral of a pastor. He was only 50 and in the prime of life. Sick but a week, he succumbed to coronary thrombosis on the way to the hospital. The curtain has come down upon his earthly life. The family circle is broken. The church is bereft of its leader. And life goes on again, but with a difference.

He died as many men die. Yet, there was a difference in his passing. As we sat there watching the thousands of people pass his still body, with its kindly and gentle face, I saw a pastor, a shepherd, a counselor, an interpreter, a friend. His was not a profession; it was a way of living. This funeral was a community event, something that was felt by the people of that busy borough of populous New York. Catholics, Protestants and Jews viewed his remains. There were colored people in the solemn procession, and people from every national and cultural background. The president of the local Jewish synagogue passed by in deep silence for he knew the pastor as a friend of his people. The Catholic priest also passed by, stood in silence, uttered a prayer, and comfortingly spoke to one of the elders of the church. During the day here and there people were seen on the streets with tears in their eyes. Clusters of

people gathered to talk about "the Pastor" and their loss.

The chancel was banked with flowers. It was the church the pastor had planned and helped to build. It was a monument to his simple yet holy faith. The artistic appointments of the sanctuary were his own choosing. In that church he had preached a positive, relevant, personal, and simple Gospel. Everything he said was helpful, and it was based upon the unshakable Rock, Jesus Christ. He preached not to secure headlines in local or national newspapers. He always sought to know what the Word of God is for human beings who live and work in a teeming city.

At All Hours

He visited the sick and suffering at all hours of the day and night. His heart held within it many a secret burden, sorrow and sin. He had brought consolation to many a mourner in his 23 years of service as pastor in one church.

He aspired to be no star pulpiteer; he sought no office of honor. Whatever he was asked to do he always regarded as beyond his own capacities to fulfill. He was essentially a humble man. In the church he served he always took the lead. He bothered himself with too many details, things which he felt he could not allow to slip. He was jealous for the honor of the church and of her Lord. Sometimes he had faced difficult tensions in the church. But he never cared to fight, or vindicate himself. He would suffer the wrongs of his own heart, and absorb them into his own being. He did not care to win the fight; he always sought to reconcile and to heal. Never did he gossip about his parishioners. Sorely distressed at times by difficulties encountered with difficult people he often wondered whether his ministry got anywhere or accomplished anything, yet he never became bitter. He felt that in the end, right and truth and love would win through. He would suffer things through rather than fight them out.

He and his family had their financial problems. It is never easy to make ends meet in a large city. No one could accuse him of extravagance. He lived like other folks lived, and contented himself with simple pleasures. He had his bills to pay. The children must go to college. And the pastor must always be first in giving to church and charities.

Beyond Measure

In the community, men respected him not only for his office, but they loved him for his spirit. He was never too busy to help anyone in distress. He loved his borough and supported movements for civic righteousness. He often spent himself beyond measure and good judgment. He never thought of himself. He was often invited to attend and address civic meetings. He knew how to tell a good story and how to make a talk to men and young people. His home was a haven of rest and a community of love. It was a little cell of Christian fellowship which was always open to visitors.

Honors had come to him. He was a member of the Board of Visitors of a prominent theological seminary. He served on the Board of a home for aged people. He was president of the denominational synod of his area. And he had served as president of the local Federation of Churches for two years. He was selected because those responsible knew that he would work at the task, and that he would give all he had to make the Federation a success. But always, he thought of his church and his people first. Nothing must interfere with the work of that parish of which he was pastor.

He would carry on a theological debate, but he always distrusted speculation that became abstract and impossible of being made clear to his people. He knew people, for he lived close to them and knew their burdens. His theology was always a part of his living faith. It was more a set of working convictions than a system of religious thought. It undergirded all his pastoral ministry. But it was a theology that was warm with the reality of the Person, Jesus Christ.

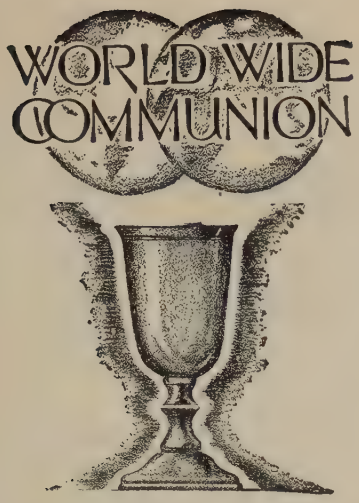
Why did the community weep? Some wept with the shocked family and friends. But most of them wept because they had known a pastor, a Man of God with a warm heart. They had seen something of the Incarnation, of the glory of a common life in which Christ had lived. They had lost a voice which had so honestly and sincerely interpreted God and life to them. They had lost an ear into which to pour their troubles without fear. They had lost a friend who would stand by them in their trials. They had lost a neighbor who had greeted them in the common round. They had lost a righteous man who had made the community conscious of God. Many of them never came to his church, but they had received of his ministry.

In a Class by Himself

Oh, the glory of the life of the pastor! Some men aspire to move masses of people with oratory. Others wish to possess power to organize and control men for great projects. There are people with varied ambitions in the earth. But to none is there given the honor and the dignity and the esteem which come to the pastor. Oh, yes, there are pastors who are "false shepherds" of the flock. They flee when the enemies of men pounce down upon the helpless and devour them. But a pastor with the spirit of the Good Shepherd is in a class by himself. What the Church needs is more *pastors!* And what the world needs is more people with the pastoral spirit in every realm of life.

As I sat there at the funeral, I thought of the grandeur of Christian love in human action. The truth of the principle—if I may speak of love as a principle—of divine redemption burned itself into my mind afresh. This pastor did what he did because of Christ. He sowed himself into the lives of people with the abandon of faith, hope and love. This is what Christ did! The Gospel is not so much a message of words as it is the gift of divine life. God is in action in and through men like "the Pastor."

The Church—and the world through the Church—needs new life. We are caught in the vicious cycle of selfishness everywhere. We shall be consumed by our egotism if we persist in living as we do. Jesus Christ has broken that cycle once and for all. His career is the victory over the world, the fountainhead of a new humanity. And those who are in Him break that vicious cycle and through their sacrifice, their brokenness, let loose upon the earth a fragrance of love which makes the commonplace aromatic with eternal meaning. This is what the pastor did in his own way in the place where God wanted him to work for 23 years. He made his community richer for his life and service in it. He brought the love of God into it. Most significant in the life of this pastor was the fact that he was not conscious of being what he was!



This should be one of the great days of the year. Thoughtful painstaking preparation is essential

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION

Sunday, October 1

World Wide Communion Sunday is October 1. Each year an increasing number of local congregations in all lands participate in the plans and become a part of a world fellowship about the Lord's Table.

Every Member Present

The World Wide Communion Day observance on October 1 does not contemplate union Communion services; but rather that each local congregation shall seek to have its entire resident membership present at its own Communion Table. Each congregation will be conscious of its spiritual oneness in Christ and in the Church Universal as it assembles in worship about its own Lord's Table.

Special Emphasis

One of the special goals to achieve on World Wide Communion Day is for each minister and local congregation to have EVERY member present at its own Communion Table. By means of announcements, letters, and an every member visitation, most churches can have another Easter attendance. Where such enlarged attendances are anticipated, those in charge of the preparation of the Communion symbols should govern themselves accordingly. Some congregations will need to plan for two Communion services since their sanctuaries may not be able to accommodate the entire membership at one service.

The Sick and Shut In

The members who are sick in homes and hospitals, and the aged and the infirm, should have the Holy Communion taken to them. These should be included in all plans for the day in order that they may be a part of the world fellowship of Christians around the Lord's Table.

The Literature

Appropriate and attractive literature has been prepared for all ministers and churches for the observance of World Communion Sunday. All orders will receive prompt attention. Please order early and the earlier the better, since mails are slow. Any minister, together with his congregation can have one of the greatest days in all the year, if plans are followed and the literature is used as recommended.

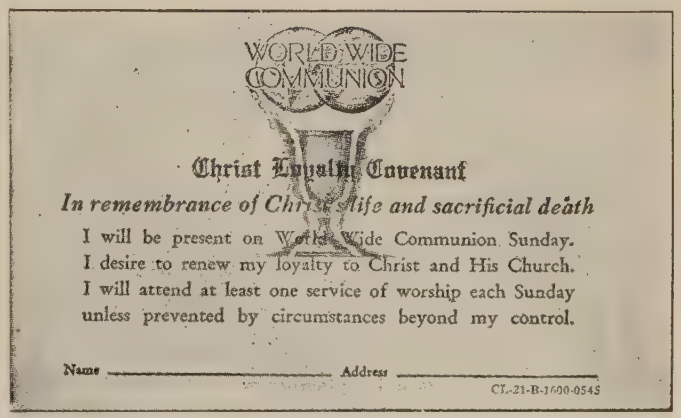
A Word of Caution

Great care should be exercised lest anyone anywhere should receive the impression that this Holy Communion Observance is being "promoted." Every approach that is made and all plans that are formulated should be done in deep reverence and with significant meaning. If all that is done, is done in the spirit of Christ, then lasting spiritual results can be achieved.

Life Dedication

This day can be made the occasion for a rededication of life on the part of each member of the local congregation. Where is there a more appropriate place for a rededication of life than at the Communion Table with its emblems —the bread and the cup—that speak so eloquently of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Lord upon the cross? When could there be a more appropriate time for a rededication of life than at the end of summer and as the local churches begin their autumn's work?

Every member should have the privilege of recording renewed loyalty to Christ and the Church on this card before Sunday, October 1. See pages on "See you in Church Sunday."


WORLD WIDE
COMMUNION
Christ Loyalty Covenant
In remembrance of Christ's life and sacrificial death
I will be present on World Wide Communion Sunday.
I desire to renew my loyalty to Christ and His Church.
I will attend at least one service of worship each Sunday
unless prevented by circumstances beyond my control.
Name
Address
CL-21-B-1600-0545

A Program That Gets Results

MAKE INACTIVE MEMBERS ACTIVE

---Begin This Program Before World Wide Communion Sunday---

- Actually begin it now.
- And have it operating on World Wide Communion Sunday.
- Begin it in cooperation with all churches of all denominations.
- Or begin it with churches of just your denomination.
- Or begin it alone. It will bring results.

The program is non-denominational or inter-denominational.

- But begin it.

Here's How!

1. **Order materials now.** So you'll have them.
   - Order "See You in Church Sunday" Worker's Agreement cards, to use in enlisting the visitors.
   - Order "Instructions for Visitors" booklets, to give to each visitor.
   - Order Loyalty Assignment Envelopes, one for each team of visitors—plus some extras.
   - Order World Wide Communion "Christ Loyalty Covenant" cards for your visitors to get every member and constituent to sign ahead of World Wide Communion Sunday.
   - Order leaflets like "I Go to Church Sunday" or "I Come to the Communion Table" to leave in every home.
   - Order posters to put up all over the community.
   - Order stickers for automobiles and windows of homes.
   - Order mats for newspaper ads and articles.
   - Order whatever else you desire—

     "According to your faith, be it unto you."

     "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days."

     Churches testify that these materials pay for themselves by bringing more people to church to make contributions.

2. **Enlist the Workers**
   - Select them carefully, on paper, even before your materials arrive.
   - Plan to enlist about 10 per cent of your most capable and active members.
   - Do not telephone them, or write them, or announce that you are asking for volunteers.
   - Visit them personally and secure them by using the "Worker's Agreement Card," shown on following page in reduced size.
   - Write on the card the exact time of the visitation—Sunday afternoon, September 24, is the recommended time.
   - Let the visitor sign two cards, one to help as a reminder and one for the pastor and church.
   - Give the visitor a booklet, "Instructions for Visitors," to read one or more times before the visitation.

3. **Publicize the Attendance Campaign**
   - Do a thorough job of publicizing.
   - Use the newspapers, radio, church bulletins, bulletin boards, schools, civic luncheon clubs, store windows, and every possible means and medium.
   - Put up posters, stickers, special "See You in Church Sunday" stamps, Movie Trailers, and other materials available from TIDINGS.
   - Cover the entire community the last week in September.

4. Send Out Visitors

- Have a meeting of all the visitors early Sunday afternoon.
- Give them general "over-all" instructions.
- Pair off the visitors. Plan this beforehand.
- Give them World Wide Communion "Christ Loyalty Cards" and general directions for presenting these cards.
- Give them leaflets, window stickers, "Special Invitation to attend World Wide Communion Sunday," "Attendance Record Cards," or whatever you have planned for them to leave in the homes.
- Give each team the assignment of specific homes in the church membership to visit—and the name of every person in the home. This visitation is upon every member and prospective member, and not just inactive members.
- The card is for each person to sign individually, and better attendance is secured when he signs two cards, and keeps one as a reminder.
- Have a report meeting of the visitors at the church that night.
- Let the visitors during the next day or two "follow up the persons not at home" until every member has been seen and enlisted in the "See You in Church Sunday" loyalty movement.

"See You In Church Sunday"

Worker's Agreement

___ I agree to participate in the "See You In Church Sunday" Visitation.

___ I will attend the "See You In Church Sunday" Workers' Conference on _____

___ I will accept a reasonable assignment in helping with the publicity and making the visits according to the instructions I receive from my minister.

___ I will follow up the persons not home on my first call until all are visited.

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Attendance Registration

☐ I am a member of this church.

☐ I am a member of _____ Church
Name of church

in _____, _____
City State

☐ I have no church affiliation.

☐ I would like to become a member of this church.

Name _____

Address _____

We suggest that the "See You in Church Sunday" World Wide Communion visitors be supplied with the following:

2 loyalty cards for each person on their list—one for the person to keep, and one for the visitor to bring back.

1 "Special Invitation to Attend" folder (or card) for each home.

1 "My Attendance Record" card for each person on their list. The name and address of the person might already be typed on this card, as the assignment of the visitor.

1 Communion or "See You in Church Sunday" leaflet for each home, plus some extras.

2 window stickers for each home—one for automobile.

5 to 25 "See You in Church Sunday" stamps for each home—to place on back of envelopes. These come 100 to a sheet.

A Special Invitation to Attend

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION

The greatest fellowship on earth will unite on the first Sunday in October to observe World Wide Communion Sunday. In all parts of the globe millions of church members will go to the Table of the Lord to partake of His Supper. What an impressive demonstration of Christian solidarity that will be!

Yet it will be not only a communion of millions of Christians together, but also a communion of each person with his Savior as he applies Christ's Gospel to his life.

Your church cordially invites you to take part in its World Wide Communion Service. You will find in it an opportunity to renew your vital relationship with your Redeemer, for your own spiritual well-being, for your reconsecration to His cause on earth, and for the strengthening of the global Christian fellowship.

This "Special Invitation" card is suitable to mail as a postal, to be enclosed in a letter to every member and prospective member, or carried into a home by visitors.

It may be that you will prefer the "Special Invitation" folder. Either is available from TIDINGS. See Order Blank, and order with other materials at once to insure delivery in ample time.

The Sacrament in the Small Church

By Carl Allinger, Pastor of a 2-Point Circuit
This Story Is About His Church at Holland, Indiana

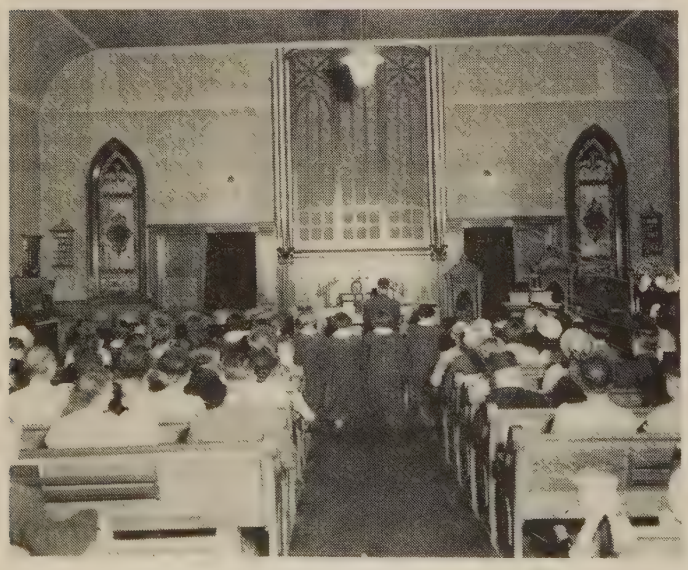
HOLLAND is a small village lying in the hill-country section of southern Indiana. The farmers surrounding us are engaged in dairy farming, and the preparation of dairy feeds. The processing of the milk produced by these dairymen gives our village its living. Our soil is not so very fertile, but we have this one advantage, it is heaped up so both sides of it can be tilled or pastured. "Down to grass roots" is no figure of speech in our vicinity. To us it means daily bread given to us from the loving hand of our Heavenly Father. Although our church, with a membership numbering 194, has some teachers, merchants, clerks, and mechanics, the welfare of our farmers and their needs govern the interest of our community. We are rural-minded.

We Are Church-Minded

Our church-school enrollment of 200 averages 162 attendance. Our service of worship will average a little bit more. Even the restaurant in our village closes its doors during church time, and all the help, but one, attend the service. Our telephone exchange did the same until a year ago when the state public service advised against it. They contended that we, as a group, could be held liable in case of fire, disease, or some terrible accident.

Four Sacramental Services a Year

Our church commemorated the Lord's Supper four times during the year: World-Wide Communion Sunday; the first Sunday of the New Year; Thursday night during Holy Week; and Pentecost. World Brotherhood day is listed first



The pictures here and below, left, show a regular Communion service at the Methodist church in Holland, Indiana.

for the reason that it is our first Holy Communion service in the Conference year. Since the sacramental service is a time of heart-searching and rededication it is expedient for us to choose days that we associate with great spiritual themes. The theme of the Jewish Passover was "emancipation."

Just think, Christians encircling the globe, kneeling at the altar, in Holy Communion, with a genuine hope of being emancipated from the tyranny of worldliness, and becoming masters of the Spirit through the redeeming power of our Saviour. It almost staggers our imagination when we feel the tremendous power that is in store for us as soon as we begin to work harmoniously together under the banner of our Christ.

On New Year's we are in the spirit of making a new beginning. On Maundy Thursday night we are reminded of Christ's agony and approaching death on the cross. On Pentecost we pray for the power of the Holy Spirit. These themes help to create a deep, reverent spirit which enriches our souls and gives us new strength for the duties and trials of life.

We Use the Hymnal

Our communion stewards are two young girls. They launder the linen, polish the silver, and arrange the table. They go about their duties so naturally (and the congregation likes to see youth at work) that a kindly feeling is created in the hearts of our people.

As our church bell concludes its invitation to the worshipers of the village, the organist plays an appropriate composition. On October 1, he will play "O, Could I Speak the Matchless Worth," arranged by R. M. Stults. At the conclusion of the prelude the choir enters the sanctuary and sings the call to worship, "O worship the Lord . . ." No. 595, and is then seated. Since our church does not use bulletins, all announcements for the week's activity are then made. Following the announcements, the New Testament lesson, in accordance with the theme of the day, is read, and a 15-minute meditation is given. Then the opening hymn is announced.

On World-Wide Communion Sunday we sing: "O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother," No. 466. This happens to be a favorite, but there are many more good hymns for this day: "Where cross the crowded ways of life," No. 465,

or "The voice of God is calling," No. 454. After the singing of the hymn the congregation is seated, and we turn to the ritual, page 523, and use all of it. The minister and congregation read, in unison, the paragraph in light type, and the choir sings the response found in bold type.

We all sing the Gloria Patri and pray the prayer that follows in unison. The leading tenor voice in our choir sings the Lord's Prayer, using the arrangement by A. D. Malotte. Again we follow the ritual. The minister and congregation read the ten commandments, and the summary of the Divine Law, and the choir, in the proper order, sings the responses given in bold type. Then we read the (group form) Beatitudes in unison, and the choir sings the responses. The scripture lesson or lessons, as the occasion may merit, are read in unison also.

Then we pause (as a congregation) and the choir sings the anthem. This is a high point in our service. The theme and appropriateness of the anthem help summarize the ritual we have been reading. These moments of meditation seem to reinforce our emotions and prepare us for new spiritual impressions.

Following the anthem we receive the morning offering. The choir chants the prayer before the ushers receive the plates. When the plates are returned the minister receives the offering and places the plates on the altar.

At this point we part a little from the ritual. The congregation is asked to turn to a sacramental hymn, and stand during the singing of the hymn, and remain standing while the minister reads the Invitation. Then the congregation is seated and the minister invites the choir to come to the altar and kneel during the reading of the prayers of confession and the prayer of consecration. The bold type is read in unison. After the prayer of consecration, when the minister receives the sacrament, the choir and organist also are served. Following the reading of the prayer, "We do not presume . . . ," the choir members take their regular places, and the organist plays, very reverently and quietly, hymns of devotion and consecration as the congregation kneels at the altar and is served.

We have three ushers who direct the congregation to the altar. This eliminates any confusion, and if visitors are present the usher extends a kindly invitation to them. Timid and aged folk receive kindly help at the hand of the usher. Parents with small children (and we have many such) need an usher's help and receive it. I have used only men for this purpose, although I had some girls, a few years ago, who almost convinced me that they could out-usher the men.

When each group has received the sacrament at the altar, the minister reads an appropriate thought. Sometimes stanzas of hymns are used, and sometimes selected verses from the New Testament are read. Each group is dismissed with a prayer.

After all have been served the table is covered as carefully as it had been covered in preparation by the communion stewards. The congregation again take their hymnals and turn to the ritual, page 530, and standing, read with the minister the closing paragraphs and receive the benediction. Instead of the doxology we sing the second stanza of hymn No. 27:

"Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys which earth can not afford."
AMEN.

The Success of

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY

and of the attendance on this and on successive Sundays throughout the autumn months will be determined largely by the materials used.

Unless your church will receive a special World Wide Communion Sunday bulletin through a regular Church Bulletin Service, by all means order and use the

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION BULLETIN

prepared by TIDINGS for this occasion. It is new; it is different; it is attractive. It is designed specifically for this Sunday, and urges attendance every Sunday until Christmas, thus tying in with the "See You in Church Sunday" emphasis. Its inside pages are left blank for local church calendar and news to be mimeographed or printed on them.

Order also:

1. "See You in Church" Worker's Agreement cards.
2. World Wide Communion Loyalty Covenant cards.
3. Special Invitation folders, with world time table.
4. Special Invitation cards, for every member.
5. "I Come to the Communion Table"—new leaflet.
6. Attendance Registration cards.
7. "See You in Church Sunday" posters, stickers, buttons, etc., for "See You in Church" campaign.
8. "My Church Attendance Record," from World Communion Sunday to Christmas.

See articles, announcements, and order blanks in this magazine, and order from TIDINGS now to insure early delivery.

The United Evangelistic Advance

By Jesse M. Bader, Executive Secretary
Department of Evangelism, Federal Council of Churches
New York, N. Y.

THE Advance is advancing! It is not possible to give definite denominational totals on the increases in church membership, since the Advance will not have been completed until December 31 of this year.

The United Evangelistic Advance Committee is composed of 65 members representing almost all the Protestant denominations in the United States. E. G. Homrighausen of Princeton Theological Seminary is the Chairman.

The high points of the remaining months of the Advance calendar are—

October 1	—World Wide Communion Sunday
October	—Church Attendance Crusade
October 29	—Reformation Sunday
October 29—November 5	—Simultaneous Preaching Missions in *all* local churches
December 3—7	—Visitation Evangelism
December 31	— in *every* local church Mid-Century Jubilee Sunday

The largest number of new members received so far on any one Sunday during the Advance was in the Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, in Minneapolis. The minister, Reuben Youngdahl, reports 661 new members were received on last Palm Sunday, 462 of whom were adults.

The next largest number of new members received on any one day during the Advance as a result of Visitation Evangelism is reported by the Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Enid, Oklahoma, where 235 were received on one day. This day was followed by a Week of Preaching as a part of the assimilation program, when 36 others were received into membership, making a total of 271 in two weeks.

In Chattanooga, the churches joined together, in March, in a Week of Visitation Evangelism. They were led in this work by Dawson C. Bryan, of the Methodist Board of Evangelism, and Walter E. Woodbury, Secretary of Evangelism of the Northern Baptist Convention. The report shows 3,221 lay workers made 5,332 visits and won a total of 1,075 new members.

As a part of Methodism's Advance, a two weeks' School of Evangelism was held during April in the area of the Quad-Cities: Moline, East Moline, Rock Island and Davenport. To this School, 200 young Methodist ministers were brought from all sections of the nation. These young men went to school in the mornings and afternoons of the two weeks and, in the evenings, they went out, two-by-two, assigned to 80 local churches in the area. These trained young ministers are now being used in their home areas by their bishops in evangelism.

Effective Lay Evangelism

The Fairview Evangelical United Brethren Church, of Dayton, Ohio, has had an experience seldom equalled in its denomination. During the last 18 months, the church has received 335 new members. The pastor, Loren Stine, has trained and directed 54 laymen in Visitation Evangelism.

Some totals are available from the Lutheran Commission on Evangelism, which Commission represents 8 Lutheran bodies. On the Atlantic Seaboard, 454 churches report 23,460 interviews with people not members of any church, resulting in 2,165 membership transfers, 2,333 received on confession of faith, 802 children who were baptized, 3,979 received from pastors' catechetical classes, making a total of 9,279, or an average of 20 members received by each church.

The Lutheran Commission on Evangelism has covered 7,000 of the 10,786 congregations of the National Lutheran Council. To date, at least 150,000 laymen have been trained and used in Visitation Evangelism, and 147,000 new members have been added to the 7,000 churches. C. Franklin Koch, one of the leaders, states that many pastors say, "More important than the numbers

Pictured here are the five staff members of the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches. They are (left to right) Jesse M. Bader, Executive Secretary of the Department of Evangelism; Edward Gebhard, Associate Director of the National Christian Teaching Mission; Harry H. Kalas, Director of the National Christian Teaching Mission; James L. Stoner, Director of the University Christian Mission; and Harold H. McConnell, Field Secretary of the Department of Evangelism.

reached is the spiritual revival which is coming among the churches themselves, as a result of this special evangelistic program."

The United Evangelistic Advance is not an urban movement only, but is making a significant contribution to the program of evangelism in the rural church. As a typical example, we cite five small churches in Vermont, which had a total membership of 399, that decided to enter a Visitation Evangelism Campaign. As they took stock, they discovered that last year they had received a total of 17 new members—9 by profession of faith and 8 by letter of transfer. This year, as a result of four nights of visitation by laymen, 103 united with the 5 churches in the Easter Season—88 by profession of faith.

Interdenominational Reports

Recently, the Brooklyn Federation of Churches and the Department of Evangelism cooperated in a city-wide Visitation Evangelism program. A total of 2,832 new members has been added to the Brooklyn Protestant churches, as a result.

The Council of Churches at Peoria reports unusual results in their Evangelistic Advance. In March, the churches participated in a Visitation Evangelism program, which was followed by a Preaching Mission led by E. Stanley Jones. During Holy Week, Morris Wee, president of Carthage College, gave the noon-day theater sermons. At the Easter Dawn Service, J. C. Penney gave the message, when 4,800 people were present. A total of 25,450 persons heard these speakers.

Since the beginning of the United Evangelistic Advance, the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council has conducted 29 interdenominational programs of Visitation Evangelism. H. H. McConnell, Director of Visitation Evangelism, reports that 27 qualified directors from the denominations have been leading campaigns. Twenty-four other communities are in the schedule for this fall.

While the Southern Baptist churches are not officially in the United Evangelistic Advance, yet it is a matter of deep satisfaction to report that a two weeks' Simultaneous Preaching Mission was held, beginning on Easter Sunday, in every Baptist congregation west of the Mississippi River; and, next year, beginning on Easter Sunday, it is the plan of the leaders to do the same thing east of the Mississippi River.

Hutchinson, Kansas, churches held a Week of Visitation Evangelism, just

preceding Easter, under the direction of John Simpson, minister of the First United Presbyterian Church in Oak Park, Illinois. Twenty churches have reported 517 new members.

The Denominations Advance

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been conducting its New Life Movement for the past three years. In that time, there have been more receptions into membership than in any three-year period in its history—"177,000 more than our record would have led us to expect." The end of the three-year period found the interest and accomplishment of the Movement still increasing. To conserve this and to go farther with uncompleted New Life tasks, the General Assembly called the Church to go on in the New Life Advance, and thus participate in the United Evangelistic Advance.

Both in cooperation with programs sponsored by the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches, and in shared community enterprises, the churches are finding strength for evangelism through cooperation with other denominations. The New Life work has stressed the spiritual deepening of the church membership, lay evangelistic missions, and better ways of starting new church members in the Christian life. Next year, it will bring all the pastors to 24 area Schools of Preaching on the great doctrines.

Recently, the students of Andover-Newton Theological Seminary cooperated in a clinical demonstration of Home Visitation Evangelism with nearby Baptist and Congregational churches. Laymen received training along with the students, and went out in teams (a layman and a student together) to secure decisions for Christ and the Church in the homes. Six churches sent out a total of 110 teams on two or three different nights. They interviewed 317 people and secured 93 decisions, 38 of which were first decisions for Christ and applications for baptism into the church.

The Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council has also been holding University Christian Missions. James L. Stoner is the Director. During the past six months, 37 Missions have been conducted on campuses which have a total enrollment of 158,000 students. This represents 1/15 of the student population in our American colleges and universities. The University Mission will surpass its goal of 50 campus missions by the end of this year.

The National Christian Teaching Missions are a part of the Advance. The Director is Harry H. Kalas. Twenty-eight Missions have been held since the Advance started. Forty-three Missions are scheduled for the remainder of 1950. In 18 Missions held since January 1 of this year, 464 local churches have participated.

Laymen Can Evangelize

The laymen in the Advance have been winning people to Christ and the Church in small communities as well as in the large ones.

In Farmington, Maine, there is a Congregational church of 333 members. A group of trained laymen in four evenings won 72 members. One physician said, "I would have joined this church twenty years ago if someone had asked me."

Bradford, Vermont, is a small community of 1500. As a result of four evenings' work in lay evangelism, 61 members were received.

Other Congregational churches in Vermont had the following results: East Corinth, 20; Fairlee, 24; Piermont, 13; Manchester, 34.

In Dallas, Texas, recently, there were 19 local churches of the Disciples of Christ engaged in a week of Visitation Evangelism under a director. Result? There were 1,457 new members added to the churches.

Many American Protestant church leaders are saying that this past Easter season was one of the greatest in Evangelism, with more people added to the churches than ever before in a similar period. Much of this was due directly to the United Evangelistic Advance. It has taken hold. It is making many churches and communities different, in much the same way that the springtime makes a difference. A new spiritual life is evident in the churches of America. The Advance presses on!

The work which centuries
might have done must crowd
the hour of setting sun,

John R. Mott

People throughout the world have heard Dr. John R. Mott quote the above words. He has used them to impress upon his hearers the urgency of the task of world missions and world evangelism.

The picture on the right shows Dr. Mott in his office on Orlando, Florida, signing the statement which is reproduced above. Looking over his shoulder is Dr. John Branscomb, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Orlando, of which Dr. Mott is a member and faithful attendant. On the desk is a map of the world with dots to represent the homes of the writers of the International Number of *The Upper Room*. The only dot representing a writer from the United States is at Orlando. As was the case last year the only meditation from the United States is by Dr. Mott. Altogether there are 37 major geographical areas, or countries, represented.

The second picture shows Dr. Mott and his long-time secretary, Dr. B. R. Barber, with pictures taken from the walls of Dr. Mott's office. The five pictures are of the men who most influenced Dr. Mott in his life work.

Dr. Mott holds the picture of General Robert E. Lee on his favorite horse, Traveler. Next to Lee is Dwight L. Moody, who held the conference at Mount Hermon at which the Student Volunteer Movement was founded. Dr. Mott was present with the Cornell University delegation. An even 100 men became volunteers for foreign missions at that conference. It is said that this movement led 20,000 men and women to the mission fields under the various boards.

Next to Moody is Sir Kynaston Studd, under whose influence Dr. Mott was really converted and turned from the study of law to religious work. As Dr. Mott entered a lecture, Studd was just announcing his text: "Seek thou great things for thyself? Seek them not. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God." At that moment Dr. Mott began to seek God's will. Studd himself had been won by Moody.

Next is Henry Drummond of Edinburgh University who had such a deepening influence on the students in Great Britain. On a visit to America he did great work in the colleges and universities and developed an enduring friendship with Dr. Mott.

At the extreme right is Henry Clay Trumbull, editor of the *Sunday School Times* in his day and the author of *Individual Work for Individuals*.

NEWS

OF INTEREST ON EVANGELISM IN THE CHURCH

Church Shows Gain of Nearly 100 Per Cent

Over the period of the past three years the Beechmont Methodist Church, Louisville West District, Louisville Conference, has showed an increase in membership of almost 100 per cent, thus exceeding the "1 for 14" goal and nearly attaining a "1 for 1" record.

The church, served by J. Lester McGee, Chairman of the Louisville Conference Board of Evangelism, has showed a gain of 534, bringing total membership from 629 of three years ago to the present number of 1,110 (less 53 removals by death, certificate, etc.).

Experience Was Satisfying

Seventy-seven new members were received into the First Methodist Church, Lyons, Kansas, following a week of visitation evangelism directed by the pastor, L. O. Smith, member of the General Board of Evangelism.

The pastor says that his experience at Glassboro, New Jersey, in the Philadelphia Evangelistic Advance was rich and satisfying. At Glassboro, 50 persons were received on a single Sunday.

They Beat the Deadline

The following churches in the Hutchinson, Kansas, District, with only nine months of the Conference year reported, have met their goal of one new member by confession of faith or from preparatory membership for each 14 members on the roll at the beginning of the year:

Galt (1:4), Sylvia (1:5), Iuka (1:6), Lake City and South Hutchinson (1:7), Ebenezer (1:9), Lerado and Plevna (1:10), Murdock, Claflin, St. John, Hadley, Bushton (1:12), Langdon, Sawyer, Albert, Mitchell (Rice County), Triumph and Salem (1:14).

Throughout the district, attendance at Sunday school and morning worship shows a gain of 6 per cent over last year, according to J. S. Ploughe, district superintendent.

Farmville District Holds School of Evangelism

The district-wide program of instruction in evangelism for the Farmville (Virginia) District, held in Keysville, with Dr. Stanley Lowell of Washington, D. C., as director, resulted in 86 decisions to transfer and 81 first commitments to Christ.

The pastors of the district churches and their visiting preachers met each morning for worship and instruction on evangelistic work. Revival services were held in various churches in the evening. All who participated in the program did some visitation evangelism.

50 Per Cent Increase!

Trinity Methodist Church, Glenville, West Virginia, reports a membership increase of 50 per cent during the period from October 1, 1949, to June 1, 1950. Numbering 116 persons at the beginning of October, the membership now totals 245. E. M. Comp is the pastor.

Walsenburg Church Reports Increase

The First Methodist Church of Walsenburg, Colorado, has, during the past Conference year, received 32 members on profession of faith, making a total membership of 347, the pastor, Allen N. Talla, states. This gives the church an evangelistic ratio of slightly more than 1 to 10.

During the 1948-49 Conference year, this church gained 66 members by profession of faith, a ratio (based on active membership of 232) of 1 to 3.5.

Our Changing World

Acclaimed by those who have seen it as perhaps the greatest film of its kind ever attempted, the all-color, sound motion picture, *Our Changing World*, presented by the Radio and Film Commission of The Methodist Church, is now being released to our Church and to other denominations by The Methodist Publishing House depositories in thirteen cities.

The film, produced by John Nash Ott, Jr., Winnetka, Illinois, recognized wizard of time-lapse motion picture photography, runs 72 minutes on the screen. Its story deals with the creation of the earth, with life upon the earth, and with a planning and guiding of these which it is seen can be only of divine origin.

Our Changing World abounds in

beautiful time-lapse shots of growing flowers, plants and seeds. A stem slowly emerges from the ground and unfolds into a lovely flower. A blossom develops into a peach before your eyes. How changes occurred in the earth's structure is shown. And there are magnificent scenes of many parts of the world, including the spectacular eruption of the Paricutin volcano in Mexico.

The climax is breathtaking with a calendar year representing the

history of the earth and man's advent thereon depicted as occurring on December 31. Twenty seconds before midnight of the 31st, Christ is born. On the stroke of midnight Columbus discovers America. Only in the final second of time has modern man created civilization as we know it.

"Don't fail to show this film in your church, church school, public school, youth group or adult group anywhere," says the Radio and Film Commission. Rental has been placed at $25.00, a minimum, and worth double that.

Labor Sunday Message

Pastors are urged to make available to their congregations the 1950 "Labor Sunday Message," a pamphlet prepared by the Department of the Church and Economic Life of the Federal Council, and dealing with the relationship of Christianity to labor and the present world crisis. The message is to be read in the churches on Labor Sunday, September 3, or, if preferred, on September 10.

The original draft was prepared by a member of the Department who is a national labor leader. The back page of the pamphlet contains excerpts from the official Statement of the Detroit Conference on the Church and Economic Life.

The Labor Sunday Message may be secured by writing to: Department of the Church and Economic Life, The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York.

Prices are as follows: 5 cents for a single copy; $1.00 for fifty copies; $1.60 for one hundred copies; $5.00 for five hundred copies; $6.50 for one thousand copies.

World Service Giving Increases 20 Per Cent

Methodists are responding to world need with their world service dollars, reports Dr. Thomas B. Lugg of Chicago, treasurer of the general Commission on World Service and Finance.

Returns for the first month of the new fiscal year were $298,149.36 in June—an increase of 21.52 per cent over the $245,345.11 figure of last year. In addition, $317,122.32 was received during the month of June for the Advance for Christ and His Church.

Attend Student Retreat

More than 50 Methodist ministerial students from various colleges throughout the state attended a Mississippi Methodist Ministerial Student Week-end Retreat at Highland Church in Meridian, Mississippi. The retreat attracted students from Millsaps College, University of Mississippi, Mississippi State, and Mississippi Southern.

Principal speakers were Harry Denman, Executive Secretary of the General Board of Evangelism, and James W. May, Field Director of Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

Originating the idea for the retreat and directing its program was Robert L. Katzes, pastor of Highland Church.

Students, speakers and director are shown in the accompanying picture.

Evangelists Report Successful Year

E. C. Chastain, approved evangelist, assisted by his wife, who is a children's evangelist and accomplished musician, conducted 17 meetings during the year, preached 273 times, ministered to over 10,000 souls, and brought 1,125 persons to the altar.

The Chastains held children's meetings with a total attendance of 2,100, and special young people's meetings with a total attendance of 1,100.

They broadcast on the radio 35 times, and appeared in sacred concerts before high school and college student bodies.

The editorial staff of Shepherds will greatly appreciate news items for these pages, which are being incorporated as a regular feature of our magazine. We urge the missionaries in foreign fields, as well as home pastors, to contribute. Let District Secretaries of Evangelism report on district basis.

Approved Evangelists' Schedule

Joseph Brookshire, approved evangelist, and his party, Box 431, Lexington, Kentucky, have announced the following schedule of union meetings for the months of September and October.

September 3-17: Union Revival, Reading, Michigan.

September 24-October 8: Union Revival, Cambridge, New York.

October 15-29: Union Revival, Irvona, Pennsylvania.

Tri-District Mission

Under the direction of Dr. J. W. Golden, the Bennettsville, Sumpter, and Florence Districts of the South Carolina Conference, Central Jurisdiction, conducted a United Evangelistic Mission in June with excellent results. A total of 347 new members was received into the churches; 317 of these were on profession of faith.

Working with Dr. Golden in this mission were the three District Superintendents; Bishop J. W. E. Bowen; and Dr. C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr., of the General Board of Evangelism.

Membership Sunday Big Day

Membership Sunday was a "red letter" day at East Lake Methodist Church, Birmingham, Alabama, according to Lambuth Archibald, pastor, for 137 were received into the church. Of that number, 78 were on confession of faith.

The Birmingham *News* published a five-column picture of the class that was received, along with the news concerning the event.

Prior to Membership Sunday, 100 had already been received into the church since Conference.

Methodism Lighting Fires

"The outlook is most encouraging for an evangelistic advance this fall. The Methodists are helping to light the fires all across the nation."—*Jesse M. Bader*, Executive Secretary, Department of Evangelism, Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

Church on Fire

"Our church is on fire for Christ through visitation evangelism," writes John F. Herion, pastor of Grace Church, Willard, Ohio. As a result of the pre-Easter visitation program, 84 new members were received on Palm Sunday and another group on Mother's Day.

"I could tell you of many wonderful experiences we had in calling on these people," said Pastor Herion, "but the greatest truth is that they were *waiting* for us to call on them in the name of Christ. I hope that this sort of evangelism will sweep the country."

Lexington Conference Holds Week-end Camp

The Lexington Conference of the Central Jurisdiction held a young Adult and older Youth Week-end Camp at Bishop Roberts Park, Riverdale, Indiana, July 14-16.

The group in attendance was composed of persons from 18 to 40 years of age. Children up to the sixth grade were invited to attend with their parents.

Inspirational speaker was Dr. Charles B. Copher, Professor of Old Testament at Gammon Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia—Methodism's only Negro Seminary.

Appointed Approved Evangelist

E. O. Allen of 700 South Marion Street, Carbondale, Illinois, has been appointed an Approved Evangelist of the Southern Illinois Conference.

For seven years he has served with the Southern Illinois Conference as Missionary Evangelist. During these years he organized six new churches, reorganized six abandoned churches, and gave special help to many of the weaker churches. He returns to the regular evangelistic work with a vast knowledge of survey work, youth evangelism, and pulpit presentation.

He has held about 500 revivals within the bounds of the Southern Illinois Conference, and has conducted Personal Evangelism along with his Preaching Revivals.

Spiritual Warmth and Heartthrob

"I value *Shepherds* as one of Methodism's finest pieces of literature. To me it has more spiritual warmth and real 'gospel heartthrob' than any other periodical coming to my desk," writes Graham S. Carlton, pastor of Memorial Methodist Church, Petersburg, Virginia.

New Vocation Manual

The Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations of The Methodist Church has published a new manual, *Counseling for Church Vocations*, edited by Harold W. Ewing, chairman of the Committee.

The 48-page manual is a valuable aid for all adults counseling with youth—ministers, youth leaders, vocational counselors, and teachers.

Available through branch houses of The Methodist Publishing House, the manual retails at 25 cents per copy.

J. W. Golden

I have just returned from a four-day program with Brother J. W. Golden in Florence, South Carolina. I have been greatly impressed with the versatility of his approach, the tremendous need which he is trying to meet, his evangelistic statesmanship, and the utter abandon with which he gives himself to the work. I hope you will join me in a daily prayer that God will bless him with the strength to keep on "keeping on." He is a brother beloved and needs every bit of help we can give him.

—*C. Lloyd Daugherty, Jr.*

The Church Without a Member

"We have had at least 20 people, that we know of, who were not attending church anywhere, to attend services at Calvary Chapel, Milan, Tennessee. They are not attending regularly, but have made the start, and, of course, the main aim we had was to try to reach people who were not attending church somewhere," writes Mr. James C. Ledbetter concerning Calvary Chapel, the church without a pastor and without a member. (See article on page 24, August *Shepherds*.)

Look at This!

Dr. Fred A. Turner, a minister who has been a tower of strength in the Florida Conference, and who has been superintendent of the Jacksonville District for the last six years, retired at the recent session of the Florida Annual Conference.

On being presented with a cash gift at the session of the Annual Conference, he accepted the gift and said that he would match it with an equal amount from his own "meager" sav-

SHEPHERDS

Vol. 4—No. 12 September, 1950

Geo. H. Jones, *Editor*

D. E. Jackson, *Business Manager*

Subscription price, $1.50 per year. Churches may subscribe for their Membership and Evangelism Committee at the rate of seven subscriptions for $10.

Single copies, 15¢. Quantity orders of a single issue, as long as the supply lasts, 10¢ a copy.

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TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Avenue Nashville 4, Tennessee

ings as a donation to the first pastor in the Jacksonville District to start constructing a new Methodist church.

Thus his very first act in retirement showed rare insight, wisdom, and sacrifice. What is more important today than that at least one new church be built in every district every year?

Theological School Goes Evangelistic

The Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, celebrated the Easter season for the fourth successive year by suspending classes during Holy Week and enlisting faculty and students in a wide variety of special Holy Week services in the 130 pastoral charges served by students of the seminary. In addition, 35 students serving as assistants in Dallas, Fort Worth, and other nearby churches shared in the services conducted by these churches.

The 130 students serving pastoral charges reported 887 sermons preached during Holy Week; 4,300 homes visited; 108 infants baptized; and 551 additions to church membership, of which 323 were by profession of faith.

Spirit of Advance

The above picture of the newly constructed church in Edinburgh, Texas, pastorate of A. M. Gomez, testifies to the spirit of advance which burns in his Latin American congregation of 300 members.

Although the treasury contained only $9,000.00 on July 10, 1949, the day ground-breaking ceremonies for the new sanctuary were held, the pastor and his people plunged enthusiastically into the fund-raising campaign and were amply rewarded for their efforts. They saw the new place of worship ready for the first service on Christmas Day, 1949. The church, which has a seating capacity of 400, was furnished almost wholly by donations from individuals of the congregation.

Pastor Gomez reports that he expects the building will be paid for completely within the next three or four years, at the end of which time construction will be begun on an annex.

Koestline to "Motive"

Henry Koestline, who has served as editorial assistant of Tidings Publications, including *Shepherds* Magazine, for the last twelve months, on July 1 became managing editor of *Motive* Magazine. *Motive* is published by the Division of Schools and Colleges of the General Board of Education.

Mrs. Madge Montgomery has served as editorial assistant in the preparation of this edition of *Shepherds*. She will continue to assist with *Shepherds* and other Tidings publications.

"Disciples"

In August *Shepherds* announcement was made that a monthly booklet named "Disciples" would soon make its appearance, beamed to the laymen and to the members of the local church committee on Membership and Evangelism. We regret that it has been impossible to launch "Disciples" at this early date, but are hoping that it will come later.

"The Methodist Hour"

Word comes from the office of "The Methodist Hour" that printed copies of Dr. Harry Denman's radio sermon, "The Business of the Church," is in great demand. If you did not hear this message on Sunday, June 25, write for a copy directly to "The Methodist Hour," James W. Sells, Director, 408 Wesley Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia.

Nearly 200 stations in the Southeastern and South Central Jurisdictions will carry "The Methodist Hour" each Sunday through September—8:30 a.m., E.S.T., and 7:30 a.m., C.S.T. See August *Shepherds* for a list of speakers.

"Go and Try"

"Go and try to save a soul, and you will see how well it is worth saying, how capable it is of the most complete salvation. Not by pondering about it, nor by talking of it, but by saving it, you learn its preciousness."

—*Phillips Brooks*

Memphis Church Sets Enviable Record

The Union Avenue Methodist Church of Memphis, Tennessee, has a record of membership increase and church activities of which it may well be proud.

During the last Conference year, 281 new members were taken into the church, making a total of 652 received during the last two years and a grand total of 1,851 members.

The church school has an enrollment of 1,275, and boasts one of the largest and most active Youth Divisions in the Conference. The organization sponsors both a Boy Scout troop and a Boy Scout post.

In the past year the church raised $33,000 for a Future Building Program, in addition to the amounts for missionary work and benevolence, and paid $600 toward the organization of St. Matthew's Church in Memphis.

The men of the church do visitation evangelism each month, and the record of growth and improvement shows the plan to be successful.

ANNOUNCING

Children's Prayers

by LUCY GRAY KENDALL
illustrated by SAM LEACH

This charming little book of prayer and praise is the answer to innumerable requests for a suitable gift item for children. Miss Kendall has captured the child heart and the child mind with these poems that express the child's wonder and joy for each new day. Here are thankfulness for God's gifts, prayers for night and morning, table graces, and poems for special occasions such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter.

Sam Leach has illustrated each poem with pictures that will please the children and enchant the parents.

In his foreword, Dr. John Brewton of George Peabody College for Teachers says that Miss Kendall "has succeeded in writing simple and sincere verse representative of a child's own thinking. . . . The verses describing God's world bring a feeling of calm security and peace. . . . Parents will welcome these little prayers and poems of praise so pleasingly illustrated. In them the children will find delight. More important than that—by them children will be aided in looking to God and upon life prayerfully, reverently, devotionally."

Beautifully printed in sepia. Sturdily bound in blue cloth with gold stamping. Size 4½ inches by 3½ inches. 64 pages.

35 cents---3 for $1.00

The Upper Room

1908 Grand Avenue Nashville 4, Tenn.

HOW TO REVIVE THE SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE

By Harry Sims, Approved Evangelist,
Westview, Kentucky

IS it desirable to have a Sunday night service? First, may I ask, "Is it desirable to have a Sunday morning service?" Why have a service at 11:00 o'clock? Can anybody answer that question? I suppose it is just a habit like Governor Dewey running for the Presidency. If I were a pastor (and I have been for many years) I would rather have a service any time in the 24-hour period than at 11:00 o'clock.

Why not have church services at 4:00 A.M.? I have attended only one service at that time. In fact I did not attend it. I got there at 3:20 A.M. to find the great church filled and 20,000 turned away already when I arrived. Two large policemen were guarding the doors so that no one else would get in. I asked one of these honored gentlemen if I could get in, and he immediately asked me for a ticket. I asked him where I could get a ticket and he said they had all been given out a week before, and that if I did not have one then there was no hope of getting in. So I did not get to attend this service. It has never been necessary to have large policemen (or small ones either) to guard the doors of the churches where I preach to keep the people from crowding in. I doubt if it will ever be necessary. But if people will attend church that way at 4:00 A.M. it might be an improvement upon some 11:00 o'clock services I have attended.

It has been a perennial mystery to me, why a rural church which can have only one sermon a month, wants it on Sunday morning. I have had many people try to explain this to me, but I have been too dumb to understand it. I was born and reared in the rural section, and have done most of my preaching there, and I have never seen a rural church, where I could not get three people to church on Sunday night, where I could get one Sunday morning. And I have preached in the rural churches in several different states. In fact, I have never seen a rural church where I could not get two people out to church in the afternoon for every one I could get out Sunday A.M. Then why have a morning service at all? Nearly everybody wants to go see Grandma on Sunday and have a big dinner, but they will go to church Sunday night or early Sunday morning. The Roman Catholic Church has proven this once and for all. But I suppose we will continue to try to have services at 11:00 A.M. although most people do not attend them.

Is it then desirable to try to have a Sunday night service? The answer to this question seems to me to depend entirely upon one man: the pastor. If he is physically strong and has the native ability to put through a second service in one day, making it different enough to pay people to attend, then well and good; if not, better not try it.

If I were to be appointed to some downtown city church where they have not had a Sunday night service in 40 years, I would go about building up a Sunday night service in this way.

FIRST—I would preach my best sermons on Sunday night. I know of one more-or-less famous American pulpiteer who spends 10 hours in preparation for the Sunday morning sermon, and has a fairly large attendance. He spends 15 minutes in preparation for the Sunday night sermon and has an average of 15 present. This is what one might expect from such preparation.

SECOND—I would have all my best music Sunday night. This is the time of all times to have it for every city has plenty of musical talent that is not in use on Sunday night. Why not utilize it for the glory of God and the promotion of His Church? I would go outside my church to get this talent if necessary because the other churches which have it are not using it.

THIRD—I would receive all my members into the church on Sunday night. They will come and bring their friends and thus create new interest in the Sunday night service.

FOURTH—I would major on evangelism in the Sunday night service. There is no reason for having it if one does not do this. The Sunday morning service is necessarily formal. The older people want it so. It is just and right that each church should have one such service each Sunday. But it is never wise to have two such services each Sunday. I would make the night service informal and evangelistic. I would call people to repentance and see them saved in the Sunday night service. This is exactly what I did for many years as a city pastor and it is what I would do again if and when I have that assignment.

FIFTH—I would major on youth in the Sunday night service. I would not exclude the older people, but I would with all my ransomed powers go after the youth of the city. Most of them are not going to church on Sunday night.

Not every pastor can do these things, but any pastor anywhere with any kind of a church who can and will do these six things successfully and keep everlastingly at it can fill the auditorium of any church on Sunday night, and be the agency of the hand of God in winning many souls.

Let Us Rekindle the Fire

HOW TO IMPROVE THE SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

"How can I improve my Sunday night service?" is the question asked by many ministers who are tired of seeing the church half empty on Sunday nights. And in the instances where pastors have failed to answer this question satisfactorily, the Sunday evening service has been discontinued.

But the Church is not yet ready to turn over this night to secular movements and amusements. In churches across the country, the doors are being reopened and laymen are responding to the challenge to use this night for Christ.

In a number of different ways, pastors are rekindling the fires which have gone out on Sunday and are revitalizing their entire church as a consequence.

These pastors agree that making a dramatic success out of the Sunday evening service takes a lot of work. It takes more work than the morning service. People expect something "extra" if they are to go to church twice on Sunday. It requires something "extra" to lure men away from the theaters, skating rinks, bowling alleys, amusement parks, and less worthy places which are frequently doing their most lucrative business on Sunday night.

While nearly all pastors agree that a Sunday night service is a good thing, many shy away from it because they haven't the time to do a good job. They have enough to do without deliberately taking on more responsibility. Any such pastor should examine his schedule carefully to see if he is putting "first things first." The Sunday evening service offers a unique opportunity, found nowhere else in the church program, to feed the hungry emotions of our people.

Each minister will want to develop his Sunday night program in the way which will meet the needs of his people best and which is within his capabilities.

In the booklet *Open This Door* by Pierce Harris, three kinds of Sunday night programs are suggested. Each one is being used successfully, but not every program is fitted for every church. The first one mentioned is the type of program which specializes in visiting speakers, musicians, and specialists in other fields. This plan is most effective in communities of high educational and economic level. Securing outside leaders is rather expensive, but leading persons can attract many to God's house. Sometimes a well-chosen Christian motion picture is helpful here, too.

The second type of Sunday evening attraction is the family fellowship now being promoted extensively in the Adult Department of the Board of Education. Emphasis here is placed on family participation, with something planned for each age group. There is a period of eating and fellowship, perhaps singing together. Then each group holds its special session. The youth meet in an MYF worship service, while the adults hold a forum, the children are led in some constructive activity, and the intermediates have their own program. This kind of Sunday evening program is gaining in popularity, especially in cities where folks are more likely to be lonely and feel the need for fellowship more keenly. It takes adequate leadership and preparation of food, but most churches are glad to accept this responsibility when they see the happy results which follow. A small neighborhood church in a Southern city serves sandwiches, cookies, and soft drinks, then passes around a box which has a slit in the top for coins. Lettered on the box are these words. "Shall we eat next Sunday night?" The adult forum in this church is led at times by guest speakers, obtained in the city without cost, and at other times by the pastor. This program begins at 6:30 P.M. and lasts until eight o'clock.

The third type of Sunday evening program is the service which emphasizes evangelistic preaching and singing. This is the type service Pierce Harris has used effectively at First Church, Atlanta, Georgia, since 1941. Many pastors are using this means to good advantage to revitalize the spiritual life of the church and win new members. This is the type of program described on the opposite page in the article, "How to Revive the Sunday Night Service." Usually the pastor preaches and obtains a capable song leader, but the pastor may lead the singing and have an outside preacher if he feels that he is not up to preaching again that night.

When using this evangelistic service, attention must be given to obtaining variety in the services. The Methodist Church at Colorado Springs, Colorado, uses a stunt which is very popular. The men of the congregation are invited to the front of the church for group singing. The First Church of Dodge City, Kansas, also uses this plan to advantage, with as many as 100 men joining in singing. Incidentally, this church never takes up an offering on Sunday evening.

The Dodge City church uses the Altar Prayer Service every Sunday night with good results. After a prayer hymn, the lights are dimmed and the pastor and altar choir come to the altar first. When the choir (made up of junior boys and girls) returns to its place, it sings background music for the remainder of the prayer service.

The Altar Prayer Service and the youth choir are two special attractions which lift the Sunday evening service out of the ordinary. Choirs from other churches and even choral groups from men's and women's clubs will frequently respond to an invitation.

Pastors seeking a way to get started on an alive Sunday evening service will be interested in the plan used at First Church Atlanta. For many years the church was dark on Sunday night. The pastor asked the members of his church to sign a card that would make them charter members in "The Fraternity of the Faithful," in which they pledged to give their support to the Sunday evening service for 12 consecutive weeks. If, at the end of that time, they could honestly say the services were not worth-while, they were relieved of any further responsibilty, and they could tear up the card. It worked!

The Pastor Calls

FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE

By G. F. HUBBART, Retired Minister
North Indiana Conference

IN A recent visitation campaign in which I assisted, a young man working for the first time in such a program said, "This method may be all right in getting transfers, but it does not work so well in obtaining first decisions." It is my experience that initial responses will depend largely on how well the field has been cultivated before the visitation week. Billy Sunday declared he had few conversions in his tabernacle work except with people who had a degree of religious training, in the home, the Sunday school, or in some other way. In the old-time mass evangelism often two or three weeks were needed to produce conviction to win sinners. Today persistent calling may be necessary to make folks feel the church has an interest in them if they are to be won for Christ and church membership.

Often such preparation may be made through Sunday school classes. Merton S. Rice, one of Methodism's evangelistic pastors, told me that this was his chief method of interesting prospects in making decisions. In one of my pastorates, when we had a very high percentage of success in a visitation campaign, the results were to be attributed in a measure to the teacher of a young adult class.

Here is the system I used. When a new family appeared in church, or I discovered one had moved into the community, I called as soon as possible. If I found they were members of a denomination represented in our midst, I would say a kind word for that church and its pastor. If they came to our services I felt they were our prospects. Of course, if the newcomers were Methodists we could look upon them as belonging to our constituency. When a new baby was born to one of our homes I immediately sent a card of congratulation. Soon my wife and I called, soliciting the little one for our nursery roll. Then the next time we were baptizing children I would invite them to bring the little one. When any of our constituency was ill I sent him a "Get Well" card, followed soon by a call. I kept it up as long as the illness lasted. I did not forget the aged either; visiting them made an appeal to their children and grandchildren. When death came hearts were tender and pastoral care was especially appreciated. As youth graduated from high school we sent them a note of congratulation. Yet, there was nothing more profitable than the continued house-to-house visitation throughout the whole year.

I have worked under both A. Earl Kernahan and Guy H. Black in visitation campaigns. The former insisted on a community survey; the latter left it optional, considering that if a pastor knew his field well he would be able to make an adequate list of prospects. It is my conviction that if a minister does faithful pastoral service, keeping a record of his work, aided by his church societies, he may build a better constituency roll than may be obtained in a survey, unless he lives in a city with a considerable shifting population.

Paul said to the Ephesian elders (Acts 20:20), I "have taught you publicly, and from house to house." We have a good example in the Wesleys: John told a friend on November 16, 1742, "My father's method was to visit all his parishioners, sick or well, from house to house. In this manner he went through his parish which was near three miles long. He was visiting in it when he fell into his last illness." On Monday, May 10, 1736, Wesley records in his *Journal,* "I began visiting my parishioners from house to house." Abel Stevens in his *History of Methodism* states, "Wesley combined no small amount of pastoral visiting, he went often from house to house. He knew no branch of the pastoral office which was of more importance." The same writer says of Adam Clarke, "He effected much by his pastoral labors." Every Methodist minister coming into full membership in the Annual Conference answers in the affirmative the question, "Will you visit from house to house?"

Methodism possibly never had a greater evangelistic pastor than J. O. Peck. He states in his book, *The Revival Pastor,* that if Gabriel were to reveal to him that his eternal salvation depended on his winning a thousand souls in 10 years, either by preaching or personal work, he would not hesitate to choose the latter method. Theodore L. Cuyler, the noted Presbyterian preacher who built the Lafayette Avenue Church, Brooklyn, from almost its beginning to be one of the largest congregations in the denomination, declares of the three thousand souls he

received into church fellowship, "I have handled every stone."

An occasional pastor may think his parish too large to attempt house to house calling. But some of the busiest ministers with the largest churches have been constant visitors. Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, erected a million-dollar edifice to house the congregations that came to hear Dr. John Hall preach. Sunday by Sunday he announced the streets he would call on that week. Alexander Whyte, possibly Scotland's greatest preacher in the last half of the nineteenth century, with his assistant, covered annually the entire city of Edinburgh. It was the custom that one year he would take one section of the city, the assistant the other; they would reverse the ends the next year.

Norman MacLeod, another great Scotch preacher, attributed much of his success to the hours he spent in pastoral visitation. H. Jeffs in his biography of J. Brierly, speaking of that man's work before a break of health compelled him to revert to writing, says he kept a "visitation book" recording the events of his continuous calling. Charles Kingsley is another Britisher known for his pastoral care.

Bishop William A. Quayle wrote that one of the chief joys of the ministry was the privelege of greeting people in their homes, where he could bring them a bit of the breath of heaven. Bishop Francis J. McConnell relates how a committee invited him to become the pastor of a large metropolitan church, stipulating that he was to preach, to give no attention to pastoral calling or the finances. After a year's service he discovered the success of his ministry there depended on his attention to both these features he was supposed to be excused from. Dr. William V. Kelley in the former *Methodist Review* editorialized that while some might think pastoral visitation was obsolete, yet it was safe to assume that the ministers who come nearest to the hearts of their people and who win the most souls to Christ are those who give themselves largely to personal calls.

It is not necessary to always have prayer, nor even to stress religious issues each time a call is made, though the pastor will comport himself as a servant of the Master. It was said of Adam Clarke that much of his calling was of a joyous nature. John Timothy Stone, who succeeded Maltbie D. Babcock in the Brown Memorial Church, Baltimore, writing his predecessor's biography, *Footsteps of a Parish,* reports that often Babcock's calls were brief, but he always left the glow of his spirit.

I venture the statement that the ultimate success of any program of visitation evangelism will depend largely on how thorough has been the pastoral calling before the campaign. Of course, members of the church can be used in such work, but even this will not take the place of the pastor's diligence in visiting. Then, to hold the new members' interest, incessant pastoral labors are essential. The way to keep the sheep in the fold is for the shepherd to ever busy himself in tending the flock.

On First Announcement

MORE THAN 400 CHURCHES JOINED TIDINGS "Tract-of-the-Month" Club

Those who join this club

will get the desired number of copies of "Tract-of-the-Month" TRACT each month without going to the trouble of ordering it. They place a *Standing Order,* once and for all, for this Tract each month.

Tracts will be carefully selected and of high quality. For example: *Alone With God* (sample enclosed) is the September selection. See page 2. *I Come to the Communion Table* will be the October selection, and is admirable for use in connection with World Wide Communion Sunday.

A standard price will be maintained—$1.50 per 100—though if ordered separately many of them will be $2.00 per 100 (for example, *Alone With God*). TIDINGS will be able to do this because the Standing Order will enable quantity printing and also save bookkeeping.

Enroll your church in the Tract-of-the-Month Club Today

Delight your members with a beautiful and helpful Tract each month.

—Use special Enrollment Card or TIDINGS Order Blank—

In Czechoslovakia and in Canada I Found The Upper Room

THE UPPER ROOM in Czechoslovakia and Canada

Here are two stories about my experience with THE UPPER ROOM. Story No. 1 stems from my caravan experience in the summer of 1948 in Poland and Czechoslovakia. I took THE UPPER ROOM as a devotional guide, and everywhere I used it the people of all ages, from children through grandparents, wanted to see this little book. It was interesting that THE UPPER ROOM has been the name adopted by The Methodist Church in Czechoslovakia as the name for its churches, because of government regulations. So it is interesting to these people to know that we are using the devotional booklet in this country. I am positively certain that a great service can be rendered in Czechoslovakia and Poland with a Slavonic issue of THE UPPER ROOM.

The second story stems from an experience up in the wilderness area of the Superior National Forest in Northern Minnesota and Southern Canada. The morning after our party arrived, the doctor, his wife, my wife, and I sat down for breakfast in our cottage. We had as our guest the guide who had run the woods for almost 20 years. We turned to our book for the morning devotions. He exclaimed ecstatically, "Oh, THE UPPER ROOM." Then he told us that he never went on an expedition without taking THE UPPER ROOM with him.

Several days later the owner of the island, a former Chicago nurse, was our guest for a meal, and she saw THE UPPER ROOM on the dining room table. Her comment was that during the long, lonely winter vigils, she got a lot of companionship out of THE UPPER ROOM.

—Milo J. Vondracek, Pastor,
The Methodist Church of
Belvidere, Ill.

On the Cash Register

I keep copies of THE UPPER ROOM on top of the cash register. When people pay their bills, they pick one up and look at it. Then just a few words of praise from me of how it helps to begin the day by reading THE UPPER ROOM often makes a sale. They come back and want another one so I just had to order more.

—Mrs. A. A. Hamilton
Route 1
Hope, Arkansas

From a Busy Surgeon

I have been taking THE UPPER ROOM almost from its first publication and have always found it most inspiring and helpful. I would not miss a day without reading it and several of those to whom I send it have said the same thing. I send one to a very busy surgeon here in Brooklyn whose many operations make it impossible for him to attend church. He always acknowledges it and here is a quotation from one of his recent letters. "I look forward with pleasure to reading THE UPPER ROOM. I can never thank you enough for your kindness in seeing that I receive it so regularly."

Then I have been sending a copy of THE UPPER ROOM for 12 years to a woman I do not know personally but I know she is not a Christian. I also send her a Christmas and Easter card every year and have sent a small New Testament to her. She never acknowledges anything, but I keep praying the Holy Spirit will some day lead her to read THE UPPER ROOM (I do not know if she ever does or not) and open her eyes so that something she may find in it will turn her thoughts to God and she will become a Christian.

—Miss Emma J. Lockwood
920 Park Place
Brookland 13, New York

A Prisoner Appreciates It

Thank you for the 200 UPPER ROOMS you have sent for the prisoners. During this bad weather the boys on the farms are often kept indoors from two to four weeks. THE UPPER ROOMS have led a number of the boys to start to reading the Bible regularly.

One boy wrote this: "I start and end the day with the *Thought for the Day*, and I'm not afraid."

I will appreciate any quantity you can send. Texas prisons have over 6,000 inmates in 14 different places.

—Mittie E. Watters
1910 West Ashby
San Antonio 1, Texas

In a Little Country Town

Big Horn is a little country town and we have a community Sunday school and Circle. I am Secretary and Treasurer of the Circle. As we have had THE UPPER ROOM in our home for several years and I have had so much good from it I thought others would enjoy it too. So I told them I would be glad to order THE UPPER ROOM for all that would like to have it and would distribute them at our meetings. Everyone says that he gets a lot of good from reading THE UPPER ROOM.

—Mrs. Walter Davis
Big Horn, Wyoming

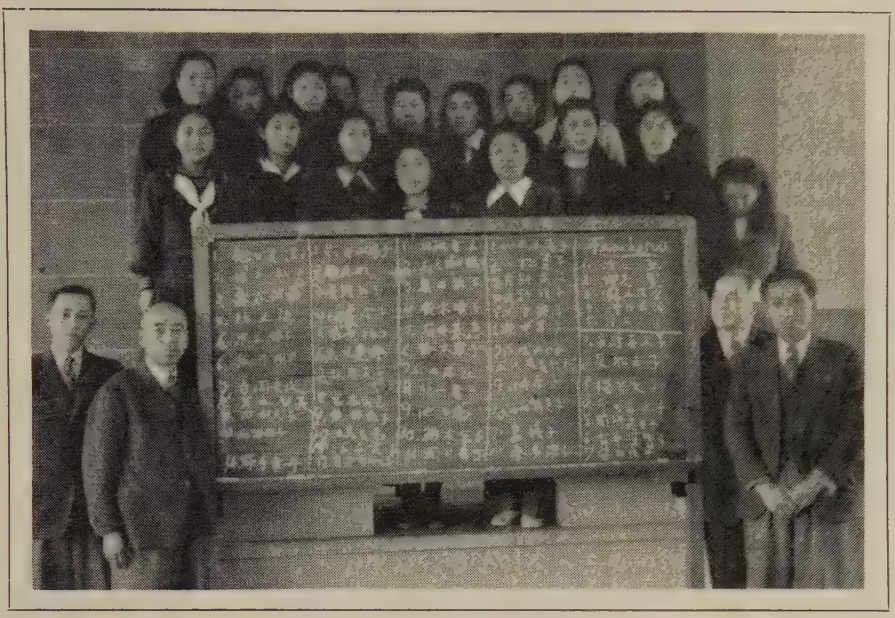
Large Returns in Spiritual Life

While the pastor at Grace Church, Springfield, Missouri, the first issue of THE UPPER ROOM came to my attention. Several copies were ordered and distributed. The order was enlarged for the second quarter. When I was transferred to the St. Louis District I advocated the use in all my churches. During my term of four years I saw a very general use of it. Then I was appointed to organize the Jefferson City District of the St. Louis Conference. I advocated its use and in the two remaining years of my term saw it increased in numbers everywhere. It has been used in increasing numbers in my pastorates at Kirkwood and here at Christy Memorial. If pastors will push it as it is supposed to be, they will find that it brings large returns in the spiritual life of the church.

—Fred M. Bailey, Pastor,
The Christy Memorial Church
St. Louis 16, Missouri

54 Converted in Japanese School

By P. Lee Palmore, Kwansei Gakuin,
Nishinomiya City, Japan



Here are some of the 58 girls and teachers who requested Christian instruction at the Shukugawa Girls' School in Japan.

"Tomorrow after school," I said, "I wish to meet those who sincerely wish to become Christians."

This was at the close of the weekly one-hour chapel I had held for a year at the Shukugawa Girls' School at the request of Principal Masatani. Although the principal was then nominally a Buddhist, he said to me, "I have decided that I wish to give a Christian education to my girls. You cannot have real education without religion. I am now sure that the true religion is Christianity."

No girl was compelled to attend, yet for a whole year nearly three hundred girls were taught an hour each week the Bible, hymns, and the nature of Christian worship by guest Japanese pastors and me. And now I felt that perhaps five or ten of them would make intelligent Christian decisions.

To my great and joyous surprise, not five or ten but 85 came to the meeting. There one of our finest Japanese pastors explained thoroughly what it means to be baptized a Christian.

Then upon invitation 54 persons, including five teachers, walked up on the platform and signed their names on a big blackboard requesting instruction for baptism. The principal, his wife and two sons were among them! What a thrill and joy!

Subsequently in the school auditorium, we consecrated this decision in the presence of relatives of the girls, assisted by seven cooperating pastors of the area. Each girl was to be trained further and baptized by the pastor of her choice.

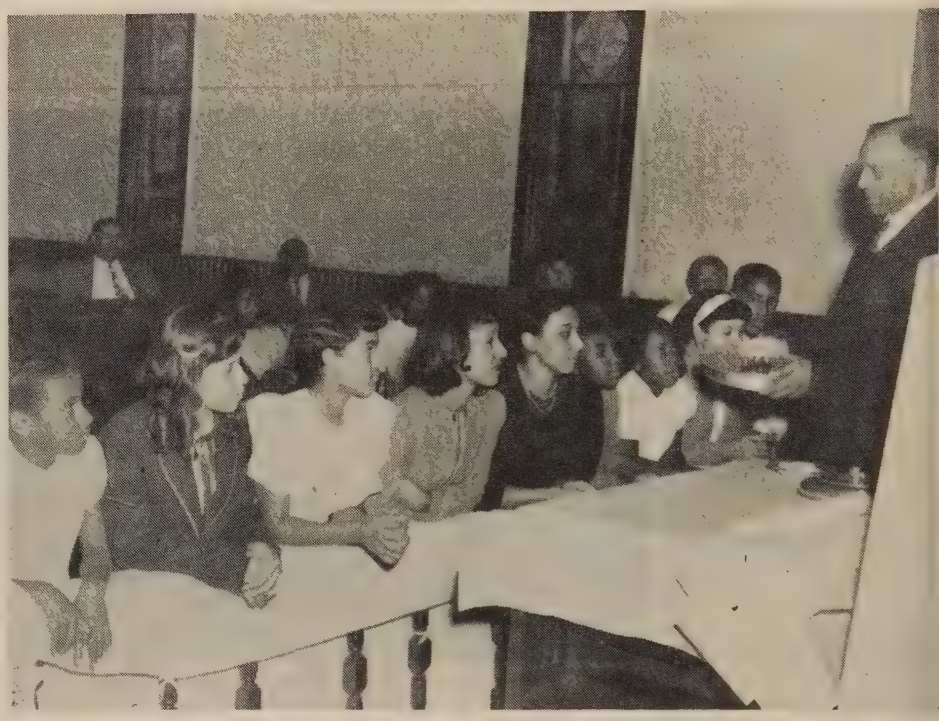
From Foreign Fields

From many foreign lands come letters to *Shepherds*. Here's a sample extract from a recent one:

"As I looked through *Shepherds* and saw the excellent tracts available, I thought what an effective means this would be in our situation. A tract rack in the vestibule of this church would reach a lot of people . . . In order for us to get them, it will be necessary to get some church or church school class in America interested in sending them out."—From Homer L. Morgan, Pastor, Thoborn Methodist Church, 151 Dharamtala Street, Calcutta 13, India, in letter dated July 5, 1950.

Advancing in the Delaware Conference

By H. R. Coleman, District Superintendent, Wilmington District



W. C. Thompson, pastor at Declair, New Jersey, is shown, above, giving a class its first Holy Communion after reception into the church. Below is a class of children from Mt. Joy. The pastor, J. V. Watson, is seated at the far left.

LET us review history, not as it dates back to the discovery of America by Columbus, nor the discovery of Florida by Ponce de Leon, but more recently to the discoveries made in the great Philadelphia Evangelistic advance. It was during this crusade that many ministers and laymen discovered what success a well-planned, honest, earnest, prayerful visitation campaign would bring.

As chairman of the Delaware Annual Conference Board of Evangelism, I should like to mention the value of the Advance to the two districts, the Philadelphia and Wilmington, that shared in the great holy endeavor. The statistics show that each district received the largest number of accessions reported any year in its history. Because of statistical errors in last year's journal the true increases may not be revealed.

The Wilmington District reports 750 accessions among its 34 charges—275 on Confession of Faith. Some of our ministers who have never considered themselves evangelists discovered that men and women can be won for Christ and His Church. I shall mention a few cases.

W. R. Hazzard, in five years of promotion of Visitation Evangelism, saw the membership of Hamilton Memorial Church, Atlantic City, New Jersey, grow from 85 to 202. He has organized a Fishermen's Club. Each new member is required to win one other member; when this is done the names of those won and those who won them are posted in the church. During the Philadelphia Crusade, 49 new members were won on this charge.

William Tasco of the Fordsville charge thought that visitation would hardly succeed in a rural charge, since farmhouses are so far apart. He did not join in the Philadelphia Advance, but later, learning of the great successes achieved, decided to try the plan. The result was that within two weeks 39 persons were added to the membership. Other successful pastors are: W. J. Helm, W. C. Strother, W. C. Thompson, F. J. Handy, I. R. Elzey, and Augustus Chancy.

Much of the success that has come to the Delaware Conference can be attributed to the zeal and tirelessness, humility, deep consecration, organizing and preaching power of J. W. Golden, Associate Secretary of the General Board of Evangelism, who has aided in every way.

At the right, W. J. Helm, pastor of the Asbury Church at Atlantic City, New Jersey, is shown with a class received Palm Sunday as a result of the Evangelistic Advance.

Below, left, W. R. Hazzard, pastor of Hamilton Memorial Church, Atlantic City, poses with one of two membership classes which grew out of the Philadelphia Evangelistic Advance.

A membership class at Fordsville, New Jersey, is pictured at lower right. This group was organized as a result of a 10-day campaign in Visitation Evangelism.

Central Jurisdiction Conference on Evangelism

Pastors, District Superintendents, and evangelistic laymen of the Central Jurisdiction are urged to attend the Jurisdictional Conference on Evangelism to be held at Mount Zion Church, 865 Altoona Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, beginning at noon on August 15 and continuing through noon on August 17.

Speakers at this great Conference will include Bishops A. P. Shaw, E. W. Kelly, J. W. E. Bowen, and Robert E. Jones; Drs. Harry Denman, J. W. Golden, J. A. Green, and Edgar A. Love of the various General Boards: some outstanding pastors, and many Conference Secretaries of Evangelism.

Rev. H. M. Marbly is host pastor and chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements. Rooms in nearby private homes may be secured on advance request for $1.00 per day, while hotel rooms may be secured for $4.00 and up. Excellent meals will be served at the church for $2.75 per day.

FAITH counts more than FROCK

By GORDON PRATT BAKER

Washington Grove, Maryland

ONE of the more subtle temptations of our day is that of leaning too heavily upon the mechanics of worship. This does not mean that I disapprove of liturgical developments. Certainly the riches of Christ ought to be displayed in the finest setting available. But precisely here is the crux of our problem. Too many men have not learned to use the setting which is available.

Not always can we preach under ideal conditions. One church may have many aids to worship, both physical and choral. Another may be barren of stained-glass windows and well-trained voices. One church may create atmosphere through the solemn tones of an organ. Another may have only a piano to "raise a tune to God." Yet the same Gospel must be preached in both, and both must reclaim the lost souls of men. Both can do it if we learn to adapt ourselves to the situation in which we find ourselves. For not the splendor of our surroundings, but the passion of our message holds the secret of transforming power.

Born in a Manger

The Christian Church was born in a manger. One of its greatest sermons was delivered at the edge of the sea. Its first pulpits were set up in the homes of tanners and tentmakers. Its communal sacrament was established in the guest room on the roof of a Palestinian house. Its promise of eternal life was given in a misty garden. Its "burning heart" was first experienced during a journey along the Emmaus road. Its commission to baptize all the world in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit was the mandate of a mountaintop.

In the early centuries of the Church's struggle to build God's kingdom, men were ministers not by frock but by faith. Slaves in Roman households washed their masters' souls in the blood of the Lamb even as they washed their feet in silver vessels. Caedmon, finding his inspiration in a stall, sang of things created at a feast. The Druid oaks of Britain served as sounding boards for the everlasting truths of Christ; the dark forests of Europe became cathedrals of the risen Lord.

A Spiritual Awakening

Even such a scholar as John Wesley kindled a great spiritual awakening in England by preaching at the mouth of mines and in the filth of market places. Across the sea in frontier America, ambassadors on horseback proclaimed the promise of eternal salvation in field and by fen. Whatever we may think of their techniques, Sam Jones, Dwight L. Moody and Billy Sunday could use a tabernacle or a tent or a baseball park to wrest from men's souls definite decisions for Christ. And in our own time men of similar caliber and conviction are crowding football bowls and rented theaters.

I am committed to the belief that our worship ought to be dignified. The whole ministry of our Master radiates dignity. But dignity must never be permitted to conflict with decision. Revelation results in revolution, and revolution often dispenses with the trappings with which we customarily clothe dignity.

See Through the Saviour's Eyes

The passion for men's souls is still the final test of an effective ministry. The man who sees only the handicap of barren surroundings does not yet look with the eyes of Christ upon the hearts of his fellow men. The man who feels only the loss of psychological support in the absence of good music does not yet sense the melodious harmony of the souls of the redeemed.

Even though a beautiful sanctuary and a gifted choir provide an atmosphere and set a place for the sermon, still the preaching will fall flat unless it is lifted on wings of conviction to the gates of heaven as it presses God's claim upon the souls of those who listen.

The man whose heart is aflame with the Gospel of Jesus Christ will instinctively seize the supporting elements in his environment, however bereft of such elements the environment might appear to unseeing eyes.

He Will Lead Us

I remember how, preaching on a hilltop one glorious spring day, I took advantage of the flight of a solitary bird to point up the fact that the Lord will lead us to a perfect end as certainly as He guides His feathered creatures through the boundless sky. I remember too how a fellow preacher kept his worship service from being upset when a small child ran down the aisle shouting to his embarrassed father in the choir: "Daddy, daddy, give me a penny!" When the ripple of amusement had all but subsided, my friend made one of the most powerful impacts I have ever felt by saying quietly, "Isn't it good that when this lad wanted to find his father he knew he would find him in church?" A man impassioned to glorify his Lord can turn even interruption into a divine testimony.

This is not homiletical sleight-of-hand. The preacher who sees before him not stones and lifeless symbols, not inanimate fields and barns, but souls anguishing for the grace of Jesus Christ will live in the hearts of men long after he has left the mortal scene, because in him God has passed this way.

COOPERATION PAYS OFF IN RURAL CHURCH PROJECT

By G. ROSS FREEMAN, Pastor, Baxley (Ga.) Circuit

ANOTHER effort is being made to solve the rural church problem through the Appling County Council of The Methodist Church in the South Georgia Conference.

There are 10 churches cooperating in this project with their three pastors. The county seat church at Baxley, with an afternoon appointment, is served by A. W. Rees. Six churches of the Baxley Circuit are served by G. Ross Freeman. The two churches of the Odum charge that are in Appling County are served by R. C. Kale.

The Baxley Circuit was set up in 1947 as a rural project of the South Georgia Conference and G. Ross Freeman was appointed to direct it. Spectacular results led the Conference Woman's Society of Christian Service to employ a deaconess to help in the project.

Approximately a year after Miss Armine Davis, the deaconess, came into the county, a group met with the District Superintendent, L. E. Williams, to organize the County Council. Leaders of the three charges discussed the plan, decided that it would be a step forward, and stated its purpose. "The purpose of the Appling County Council of The Methodist Church shall be to promote greater cooperation between the churches and the charges, to lead in county-wide programs, and to plan for an advancing county-wide Methodism. . . ."

The Council is made up of the three pastors, the MYF Sub-district president, representatives from the WSCS and the Sunday schools, an elected representative from each congregation, and representatives of all county and governmental agencies that serve the people. The entire council meets quarterly while the Executive Committee meets monthly.

People have responded to the Council plans and marvelous results have come from the little more than a year's activity.

In the first place, a wonderful spirit of understanding and cooperation has developed between the Baxley Church and the churches of the county. For example, every meeting of the entire Baxley Circuit is held in the Baxley Church. The monthly meeting of the Circuit WSCS is held in the Baxley Church. The monthly meeting of the Circuit Official Board is held in the Baxley Church, and people from the country churches feel free to use the facilities of the Baxley Church whenever they need them.

In the second place, the Council has sponsored two county-wide Leadership Training Schools. They were held in the Baxley Church with school busses bringing the people from the country churches in, and the enrollment of this school led the Conference.

Another objective of the Council was to sponsor a county-wide revival. This objective was accomplished March 26-April 2 when Harry Denman directed a mighty revival in the Baxley Church that people said was the greatest that Baxley had experienced. Great crowds thronged the church and about half of them were brought in from the country churches on busses.

Two county-wide interdenominational Thanksgiving services have been sponsored by the Council and two interdenominational Religious Emphasis Week programs for the schools of the county have been sponsored by the Council. The Council has also helped the young people of the county to have a Caravan team and a summer camp on the coast.

One of the finest things the Council has done was its leadership in a church beautification project. A landscape artist was secured to suggest ways of improving the grounds, boys of the MYF Sub-district volunteered to paint the churches, women of the churches volunteered to serve meals to them and plant flowers, men of the churches built fences, cut down trees, dug up stumps, planted grass, and set out shrubbery.

Leaders of the county feel that in the county organization it is possible for The Methodist Church to move forward as a unit, and that herein is the key to solving our rural church problem.

NEW BOOKS

Basic Issues in Christian Thought, by Albert C. Knudson

Is faith reasonable? Is God personal? Is man truly free? How are we to think of evil? How is God in Christ? How does God work in us? What is goodness?

These are the great and basic issues with which the dean emeritus of the Boston University of Theology deals in this volume which is a powerful and mature exposition of the Christian faith. Here is a book written by a leader in Christian thought for preachers who want a positive, rational Christian philosophy and theology.

220 pages. $2.75. Abingdon-Cokesbury.

Call to Christian Action, by Dores R. Sharpe

This book breathes with the courage, social vision, and fire of a modern Jeremiah. It should be put into the hands of one who suspects that the Christian Church may not be "doing its job" in rescuing human souls and fighting "spiritual wickedness in high places." It will stir the pulses of complacent laymen and furnish sermon material to despairing ministers.

As a young man, the author was secretary to Walter Rauschenbusch, that prophet of social righteousness; and, as executive secretary of the Cleveland Baptist Association for 25 years now, he has been prominently identified with important movements for social betterment.

Buy this book. Read this book. Do something about it.

Harper & Brothers. 123 pages. $1.50.

Youth Programs for Special Occasions, by Ruth Shroeder

Here are 35 varied and usable worship programs prepared out of wide experience by a Baptist minister's wife who has been counselor and teacher of young people. The services are complete with calls to worship, prayers, hymns, scripture passages, and stories. Youth leaders, teachers, pastors, and young people themselves will find here a wide variety of effective, easily-presented programs which are rich in worship values and lasting spiritual truths.

Worthy of special note is the fact that 16 of these inspiring and dramatic worship programs are for the special days of the Christian calendar and Church year, and that six others are consecration and installation services.

256 pages. $2.50. The Methodist Publishing House.

Faith is the Victory, by Harold Paul Sloan

This is one of the few books which I have read through three times. With each reading the book got better. Perhaps something was happening to me. Well, it's that kind of book! It speaks of faith as life's supreme responsibility, of revelation as a mighty fact, of the mystery of sin, of Christ's redemptive work, of the gift of the Holy Spirit, and of the personal discovery of God.

Here is a book for a preacher to read for his own soul's good, to put depth to his thought, and grandeur to his preaching.

120 pages. $1.50. The Methodist Book Room, 1703 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Do not order these books from TIDINGS.

8 NEW MEMBERS *Every Sunday!*

By George S. Duffie, Pastor
Cherokee Place Methodist Church
Naval Base, South Carolina

AT THE 1948 South Carolina Annual Conference, I was appointed pastor of Cherokee Place Methodist Church. During these past 18 months Visitation Evangelism has been one of the main programs of the church. During the Conference year 1948-1949, 416 persons were received into the membership of the church. (An average of 8 per Sunday for the entire year.)

Many of those received during the year are now serving in places of leadership in the church: the president of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, eleven serving on the Board of Stewards, treasurer of the church school, many serving as teachers of the church school and counselors in the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

During the year, church school and church attendance increased. For the morning worship hour the church auditorium is usually filled to capacity. In June, July, and August two morning worship services are held each Sunday.

Every Prospect Visited

When people are received into the church they are given the following materials: *The Methodist Primer,* "What Shall I Do Now," "I Go to Church Sunday," "I Am Proud to Be a Methodist," "What One Methodist Can Do," and "The Twelve." The following week they receive a letter from the pastor and a packet of church offering envelopes. No person is received into the church, either by letter or profession of faith, until after the pastor has visited in the home and had a conference or conferences with the prospective member.

During the year the church raised a total of $25,719. The indebtedness on the church was paid off, and 1,255 active and inactive members were reported at Annual Conference.

The program of visitation evangelism has been continued this Conference year. During March, Cherokee Place Church joined with other Methodist churches in greater Charleston for a week of special visitation evangelism. Dr. J. Manning Potts, editor of *The Upper Room,* was the inspirational speaker at the morning services when all participating ministers assembled at Bethel Methodist Church, Charleston.

A Flower for Each

As a result of this special week and the children's membership class, 58 persons were received into the membership of the church on Palm Sunday. Twenty-seven of these were by profession of faith and 31 by transfer of their church letter. In addition to the material handed to them, a flower is pinned on each new member. This helps the members of the congregation to recognize new members at the close of the service. The number received on Palm Sunday has increased our total number of new members for this Conference year to 152.

Cherokee Place Church is located on the corner of Cosgrove and Rivers Avenue at the Charleston Naval Base, just seven miles from the city of Charleston, in an area which developed during the war. Many thought that after the war people would move away. But such has not been the case. They have sought new jobs, outside the shipyard and have purchased their own homes. The area has increased rather than decreased.

The pastor, George S. Duffie (extreme right) stands beside church school superintendent T. F. Osborn, as they watch the nursery class of three-year-olds at Cherokee Place Church.

The pastor is shown just after receiving a group of 58 new members into his church on Palm Sunday. He is distributing religious literature to them.

The kindergarten class of four-year-olds at Cherokee Place Church are shown grouped above. Below, the pastor visits the five-year-old children's class.

LEAVE A LEAFLET in the HOME

A helpful leaflet bearing the stamped or written name and address of the church is an aid to winning friends for the church when left in the homes of prospective members as the Religious Census is taken. Some leaflets suggested for this purpose are:

Be a Member Where You Are	$2.00 per 100
The Methodist Church	$2.00 per 100
I Go to Church Sunday	$1.50 per 100
I Believe in the Church	$1.50 per 100

Use

TIDINGS

Order Blank

1908 Grand Avenue Nashville 4, Tennessee

THE WORLD'S MOST WIDELY USED DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

The Upper Room

1908 GRAND AVENUE
NASHVILLE 4, TENNESSEE

OFFICE OF
THE EDITOR

Dear Friends:

Now and then there is something so interesting and so important about the material that is used in THE UPPER ROOM that I wish I might talk to you about it. The forthcoming number for September-October seems to be of transcendent importance for these troubled days.

Letters by the score were written to us last autumn about the first International Number. We are now sending out a second International Number. We think it is more significant and inspiring than last year's. We hope it will be even more helpful. In order that this may be so I want to make some suggestions for its use.

World-wide Communion can be made more significant if your people have the joy of experiencing the spiritual communion that comes from sharing the same Bible readings, the same prayers and the same meditations with people of many lands and written by people from many parts of the earth.

World Missions, Their power and possibilities, are presented in a most favorable light through the meditations written by those who are the products of our missions. The meditations in the International Number make missionary effort fruitful by developing a sense of Christian brotherhood.

World-wide Evangelism, the heart of the Christian message, is made more real to all who read these daily meditations. People are led to a closer walk with God by daily devotions. The example of the writers is a constant inspiration to seek the spiritual glow that comes to a Christ-centered life.

Teaching the world concept of the Christian message is made easier through the daily messages from many lands with their Christ-centered meditations. Here is a practical and an effective method of teaching and demonstrating the world message of our faith.

I sincerely believe that this number of THE UPPER ROOM is one to which you will wish to give special attention. We are providing extra copies so that your additional orders can be handled promptly.

Sincerely yours,

J. Manning Potts

EDITIONS: ENGLISH . ENGLISH POCKET . ENGLISH (AUSTRALIA) . BRAILLE . CHINESE . KOREAN
ARMENIAN . PORTUGUESE . TAGALOG (PHILIPPINES) . ILOCANO (PHILIPPINES) . SPANISH . SWEDISH

CHRISTIANS WILL DO THESE THINGS

By M. Leo Rippy, General Board of Education

PEOPLE who are trying to live the Christian life will express this effort in many ways. Each one will do certain things if his physicial condition makes it possible for him to do so. These things are not electives. They are essentials, in fact, so essential that to neglect them means the loss of spiritual vitality. What are these things Christian people will do?

1. *People who are earnestly trying to live the Christian life will make it an essential feature of their lives to attend the worship services of the church.*

It is amazing that anyone might think he could be a Christian and deliberately stay away from the worship services of the church. Going to church is not an elective. Worship is so essential that there is no Christian life without it. No church member should ever be allowed to think that the church does not expect him to attend its worship services. Of course I do not mean that it is necessary for him to attend every service every Sunday, but I do mean that he will be there at least once each Sunday if it is at all possible.

The question could be asked, what about the 65 per cent of the church members that seldom or never attend the worship services of the church? This question is answered each Sunday. Each church member should evaluate his answer. His answer indicates his interest in the church.

2. *People who are earnestly trying to live the Christian life study the Bible.*

Reading it even daily will not satisfy them. They will seek the fellowship of a group that meets to study the Bible under the guidance of a teacher. Much of the weakness of church members is due to their lack of understanding of the Bible. No church will ever be the great dynamic spiritual agency it should be unless its members study God's Word. It is the very meat, bread and water of life. To ignore it guarantees spiritual death.

Bible Study Groups Are Essential

This means that every local church should expect each member, youth and adult, to belong to a Bible study group. But some will say we haven't room for more groups. The answer to this statement may be, why keep on receiving more members when those who are already members are not being taught the Bible?

Now I hear someone say, adults are taught in the preaching services. The time element, the variety of needs represented in the congregation, the difference in the degree of maturity attained by adults, and the fact that in many churches less than 50 per cent of the membership attend the preaching services should be enough to prove the need for adult study groups.

3. *People who are earnestly seeking to live the Christian life give their money and give it gladly.*

It has never been necessary for the leaders in a local church to put forth effort to get men and women who were enjoying the vital Christian experience to support the church financially.

Again the question may be asked, how about the 65 per cent who give little if anything to the financial support of the church? I am not talking about them. I am saying that people who are earnestly trying to live the Christian life will give money and give it gladly.

More Than the Canvass Is Needed

What about the every-member canvass? Isn't it enough? The every-member canvass is quite different from getting and keeping every member acquainted with the work of the church at home and throughout the world. It is also different from actually expecting each member to give and proceed upon that assumption. The every-member canvass which is necessary in the great majority of local churches did not become necessary because of the spiritual vitality of its members.

Giving money is a natural expression of an interest in the church and for its work. Unless there is interest, there is no gift. There may be the payment of an assessment, dues or a pledge without interest.

4. *People who are earnestly seeking to live the Christian life will put forth a continuous effort to bring others into the Christian fellowship.*

This continuous effort will find expression in their daily lives. Anyone reveals in his conversation that which has been and is of great value to him. Anyone who is a Christian is witnessing to that fact. He cannot put his light under a bucket. It will shine if he has it. It is the unquenchable light because of its source, a meaningful fellowship with God.

5. *People who are earnestly seeking to live the Christian life will be anxious and willing to do church work.*

Not every one will sing in the choir, teach boys and girls, serve on the official board, but each according to his talents. The varied abilities of people make it possible for each one to make his or her peculiar contribution in the work of the church.

People have time and take time to do those things in which they have great interest and that mean most to them.

Other Interests Often Come First

Playing bridge for prizes is of greater interest and means more to some people than does church work. Many clubs and social groups mean more to many others than does the work of the church. The major problem church people face in regard to this question is to evaluate how they are using their time. They should do, and in most instances will do, that which means most to them.

What evil days have come upon us! About 65 per cent of our church members attend preaching services once in a great while, give but little if any financial support to the church and ignore group Bible study. They are teaching what it means to be a church member and the public is learning from them as it learns from the 35 per cent of

the members who do support the church.

It is the writer's opinion that the church does not expect enough of its members. In many instances the Gospel is reduced to the lowest common denominator of understanding. The test is often, how much will the people accept?

Are the church vows something of a passing moment or do they represent essentials? Why shouldn't we expect and insist that all members be faithful in keeping their vows of church membership?

A nation cannot survive unless a majority of its citizenship is loyal. How can The Methodist Church be the kind of a Church it should be when over 50 per cent of its members ignore their vows except for an occasional gesture of loyalty?

Are we afraid to make demands upon our people? If we are in doubt concerning the value of what the church has to offer, then we should apologize for offering it. If we are sure and our certainty is based upon a personal experience, then we should be courageous enough to make demands upon our people.

What Would This Do to the Church?

If The Methodist Church required each member to live up to the five things I have suggested, three things would happen. First, thousands of church members would withdraw from membership. Second, many thousands who have been negligent concerning their church would take new interest in it. Third, millions of people who are anxiously waiting to hear a real challenge would be attracted to a church that expected so much of its members.

This is no day for a weak or apologetic approach to people. We believe that worship, Bible study, giving, witnessing, serving are the expressions that flow from lives of people who, as John Wesley said, "have a desire to flee from the wrath to come." In other words, who are trying to live the Christian life.

I can hear many people saying, "Sure, we know that, but it is not advisable to insist that our people do these things." Why not? Do you mean to say that when over 65 per cent of our people are witnessing to the fact that church membership means but little to them because of their neglect of the church that we should "God bless" them and keep quiet? It is our duty, and we cannot escape it, to call them to a halt and challenge them anew with the Christian way of life and how to be sustained in that way.

The best money that a church spends is that which it spends for evangelistic and devotional materials—materials to find persons and to win them to Christ and His Church; materials to bring persons to church, and to deepen the spiritual life of church members.

Wise churches underwrite evangelistic literature from the church budget and have evangelistic materials available at all times.

TIDINGS provides a literature service for pastors and churches at low cost. Most of these materials are non-denominational and may be used with profit by any church. Those that are denominational tell you so in their titles.

Booklets, describing some of these materials, are included with this magazine as follows:

1. "See You in Church Sunday," including World Wide Communion materials
2. The TIDINGS "Tract of the Month" Club
3. Sample of "Alone With God," and other materials
4. Folders descriptive of helpful UPPER ROOM materials.

Pastors, church treasurers, and evangelism committees may order materials from TIDINGS on an open charge account.

Make TIDINGS your evangelistic literature headquarters and THE UPPER ROOM your devotional literature headquarters.

Make SHEPHERDS your evangelistic magazine, and place it in the hands of every member of the committee on membership and evangelism, from church funds.

"See You In Church Sunday"

Have an
Easter Attendance
on
World Wide
Communion Sunday

By Using
"See You in Church"
and
World Wide
Communion Materials

"See You in Church Sunday" posters, stickers, letterheads, and cards are printed with rich blue ink

Number			Amount
_____	**SHEETS OF STAMPS,** saying "See You in Church Sunday"	25¢ per sheet of 100	_____
_____	**POSTERS** (14x11 inches) saying "See You in Church Sunday" Two-ply cardboard, for advertising in stores and other public places.	5¢ each	_____
_____	**Sets of POSTER SERIES** (11x8½ inches) Five different posters to the set, each with a different message. Will attract attention. Sets not broken.	25¢ per set; 5 sets for $1.00	_____
_____	**WINDOW STICKERS** (4¼x3⅛ inches) Put a sticker in the window of every home and automobile.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**SMALL STICKERS** (same size as at top of this page) For sticking on letters, letterheads, automobiles, etc.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**LARGE MATS** (2 column—about 4x3 inches) For newspapers and other advertising.	15¢ each	_____
_____	**SMALL MATS** (1 column—same as at top of page) Be sure and furnish your newspaper articles on "See You in Church Sunday"	15¢ each	_____
_____	**LETTERHEADS** (8½x11 inches) with "See You in Church Sunday" emblem Excellent for sending out a letter on church attendance. Use your regular church envelopes for this.	75¢ per 100	_____
_____	**BUTTONS**—Celluloid "See You in Church Sunday" buttons For pinning on coat lapels, shirts, dresses, etc. Will stimulate attendance, especially among children and youth. Order in lots of 50 or 100.	$3.00 per 100	_____
_____	**RADIO TRANSCRIPTION RECORD,** 24 spot announcements 16-inch record 33⅓ r.p.m., 12 "See You in Church" announcements on each side.	$5.00	_____
_____	**5 RADIO SCRIPTS,** designed for 15-minute "See You in Church" programs. (Same as last year.)	$1.50 the set	_____
_____	**"YOUR CHURCH IS CALLING YOU"** A "See You in Church Sunday" invitation card suitable for mailing or carrying to homes.	60¢ per 100	_____
_____	**"THE CHURCH HELPS MY FAITH,"** a card, 5½x3½ inches	60¢ per 100	_____
_____	**INSTRUCTIONS FOR VISITORS** A booklet that every "See You in Church Sunday" loyalty attendance visitor should have in advance. It will be his inspiration and guide.	5¢ each	_____
_____	**WORKER'S AGREEMENT CARD** for enlisting the workers. If the worker signs a duplicate card for himself, it will be helpful.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**WORLD WIDE COMMUNION LOYALTY COVENANT CARD.** Illustrated on page 9. Card for the visitors to carry into the homes to register the decision of every member to attend church regularly.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**LOYALTY ASSIGNMENT ENVELOPES** For making assignments to the visitors and receiving their reports. Order in multiples of 25.	60¢ per 100	_____
_____	**ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION CARDS** to check attendance and find prospects. Order one for every person who will attend on the Sundays you plan to register the attendance.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**MY CHURCH ATTENDANCE RECORD** for a person to check his own attendance. This card allows a person to check his own attendance, Sunday by Sunday, through Christmas.	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**I GO TO CHURCH SUNDAY.** New leaflet by Dr. George W. Crane This leaflet by the eminent newspaper columnist should be in every home.	$1.50 per 100	_____
_____	**LET'S GO TO CHURCH,** four-page leaflet that pastors like	$1.00 per 100	_____
_____	**WHY I GO TO CHURCH,** reprint of a famous article from *Coronet*	$1.00 per 100	_____
_____	**WHEN YOU ATTEND,** a card on church attendance for mailing or handing out	60¢ per 100	_____
_____	**"I BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH,"** new leaflet by Prof. N. Bond Fleming	$1.50 per 100	_____
_____	**MOVIE TRAILER NO. 1** (40 seconds) "See You in Church Sunday." Nondenominational.	$7.50	_____
_____	**MOVIE TRAILER NO. 2** (30 seconds) "See You in Church Sunday." Nondenominational.	$5.00	_____

TIDINGS ORDER BLANK

First Sunday in October

Or Nearest Preaching Sunday

World Wide Communion materials are attractively printed in rich purple or blue

Number			Amount
_____	**"SPECIAL INVITATION" Cards to attend World Wide Communion** Suitable for mailing or carrying to every home.	60¢ per 100	_____
_____	**"SPECIAL INVITATION" Folder to attend World Wide Communion** Four-page folder with invitation and World Time Table.	$1.00 per 100	_____
_____	**WORLD WIDE COMMUNION BULLETINS** Dignified and helpful. Churches may print their local calendar on the inside pages.	$1.00 per 100	_____
_____	**WORLD WIDE COMMUNION COVENANT CARDS** Use one for every member. See miniature reproduction on page 9. (Same as on other blank.)	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION CARDS** To register attendance and locate prospects. Order one for every person who will attend on World Communion and other Sundays. (On other blank also.)	50¢ per 100	_____
_____	**WORLD WIDE COMMUNION LETTERHEADS (8½x11)** To give emphasis to the pastor's World Wide Communion letter to his members.	75¢ per 100	_____
_____	**"THE LAST SUPPER"—Preaching picture by Howard Ellis** Complete with suggested picture sermon. This is Leonardo Da Vinci's famous painting and comes in 10 pieces on flock screen for assembling on flannel before the congregation. Six colors. 36x24 inches.	$3.75	_____
_____	**"I COME TO THE COMMUNION TABLE," by Dr. Roy L. Smith** New two-color leaflet which is spiritually penetrating and should be placed in every home before World Wide Communion Sunday, or given to every person who attends the Communion Service. This is the October "Tract-of-the-Month." If you have joined that club, do not order here.	$2.00 per 100	_____

OTHER COMMUNION LEAFLETS

_____	**"DRAW NEAR WITH FAITH," by Bishop W. Earl Ledden** World Wide Communion leaflet for mailing or carrying to every home before World Wide Communion Sunday.	$1.00 per 100	_____
_____	**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER IN THE METHODIST CHURCH** By Hubert C. Smith. Designed to lead the worshiper into greater appreciation of the ritual service.	75¢ per 100	_____
_____	**"THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME," by John L. Ferguson** Written for laymen. Simple, informing, and inspiring.	75¢ per 100	_____
_____	**WHY I COME TO THE COMMUNION TABLE (card)** A card with a great message. Excellent to distribute at Communion Service.	60¢ per 100	_____

Order Worker's Agreement Cards, Assignment Envelopes, and "My Church Attendance" Cards from reverse side of this page.

TIDINGS, 1908 Grand Ave., Nashville 4, Tenn.

Please fill my order as checked.

( ) Payment enclosed **( ) Charge to treasurer** **( ) Charge to my account**

Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss _____ NAME

_____ ADDRESS

_____ Church Treasurer

_____ Address

Date _____ **Order placed by** _____

Money spent by a church for evangelistic literature is money wisely spent

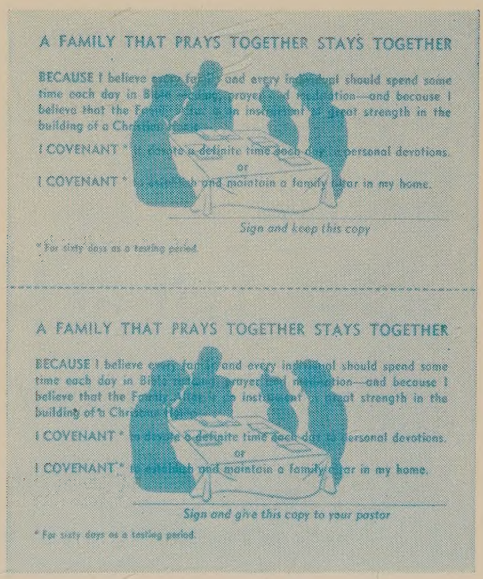
Family Altar Sunday

BULLETIN COVERS

Attractive two-color (blue and gold) bulletins printed on heavy weight white mimeograph paper. Delivered flat, size 8½ x 11 inches. Fold to size 5½ x 8½ inches, as shown. These beautiful bulletins will add much to your Family Altar Sunday program. (The Family Altar League has set Sunday, October 8, as a suggested date for the observance of Family Altar Sunday. This bulletin is useful then or on any other date you select.) $1.00 per hundred.

FAMILY ALTAR COMMITMENT CARDS

Made in duplicate as shown, so that one-half may be retained by the signer and the other half given to the pastor, this two-color (red and black) card provides the clincher for your Family Altar Sunday. The good salesman asks for the order and then gets the signature. These cards will help you make your people aware of the need for daily devotions. 75 cents per hundred.


A FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

BECAUSE I believe [illegible] and every individual should spend some time each day in Bible reading, prayer and meditation—and because I believe that the Family Altar is an instrument of great strength in the building of a Christian home

I COVENANT * to devote a definite time each day to personal devotions.

or

I COVENANT * to establish and maintain a family altar in my home.

Sign and keep this copy

* For sixty days as a testing period.

A FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

BECAUSE I believe [illegible] and every individual should spend some time each day in Bible reading, prayer and meditation—and because I believe that the Family Altar is an instrument of great strength in the building of a Christian home

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or

I COVENANT * to establish and maintain a family altar in my home.

Sign and give this copy to your pastor

* For sixty days as a testing period.

THE UPPER ROOM

1908 Grand Avenue Nashville 4, Tennessee

Six Victorious Months

of Seeking and Saving for Christ and His Church

October 1, 1950---March 31, 1951

World Wide Communion Sunday Through Easter

The Action Program in Evangelism
for the Advance for Christ and His Church

Gloriously Begin THE SIX GREAT MONTHS

SEPTEMBER—MONTH OF PREPARATION

Follow the suggestions given in this magazine for September

Plan Now - For large attendance during the fall months

Beginning WORLD WIDE COMMUNION Sunday

Start a "See You in Church Sunday" Crusade

on that date that will

1. Reclaim inactive members;
2. Bring prospective members to your church; and
3. Revitalize the spiritual life of your whole church and community

See articles in this magazine